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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"Applejack's "Day" Off"

Episode 611

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TEASER

SC. 1 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - DAY

RARITY sits on a bench in the steam room, clouds of billowing white steam surrounding her. She <SIGHS> and drops a towel over her head.

Suddenly the door swings open and ALOE sticks her head inside.

1 ALOE
Um... Rarity? How much longer are you planning on staying in here, darling?

Rarity lifts the towel.

2 RARITY
Oh, dear, is somepony else waiting?

3 ALOE
No, no. I just don't want you to get all pruneey.

4 RARITY
Oh. Well, I'm just waiting for Applejack. It's been so long since we've had a relaxing day at the spa together. I'm quite ceratin she'll be along any moment.

The spa pony nods and Rarity drops the towel back over her face.

CUT TO:

SC. 2 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - LATER

The door swings open and APPLEJACK rushes in, still tying her robe.

5 APPLEJACK
Hey, there, Rarity. I really tried to get here earlier. I just can't believe how much time my chores are taking up these days.

Applejack sits down beside Rarity, still with the towel over her head.

6 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
At least now we'll finally get to
spend some quality spa time
together, right?

Just then Aloe sticks her head in.

7 ALOE
Okay girls, that's it. We're
closing up for the day.

Rarity sits up, and turns her still towel-covered head to
Applejack. Applejack looks over at her, apologetic.

8 APPLEJACK
Aw, shucks, Rarity. Guess I missed
the whole day. I sure am sorry.

Rarity takes the towel off to reveal her face is so PRUNEY
she looks like a raisin.

9 RARITY
Me too.

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 3 - EXT. ROAD - DAY

Rarity walks up the road toward Sweet Apple Acres. TWILIGHT
SPARKLE and SPIKE join her from another direction. Spike
carries a stack of empty pie plates.

10 TWILIGHT
Hi, Rarity.

11 RARITY
Morning Twilight. Spike. Goodness
that's a lot of empty pie plates.

12 SPIKE
(laughs nervously)
<HEH, HEH> Yeah. We're just heading
to pick up some fresh pies. I don't
know why we keep running out at the
castle.

Twilight shoots Spike a look and he blushes.

13 SPIKE (CONT'D)
What are you going to get?

14 RARITY
Applejack, actually. Though I'm quite sure she'll be too busy once again.

15 TWILIGHT
What do you mean?

16 RARITY
Oh, nothing. It's just that Applejack and I haven't had one of our spa days in ages.

17 TWILIGHT
You two really should set aside some time.

18 RARITY
Darling, I've been trying for moons, but Applejack is so busy these days it's next to impossible.

19 TWILIGHT
Wow. I didn't realize Applejack had so much to do.
(to Spike)
I wonder if we can help.

With that, the three of them head up the path to...

SC. 4 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - CONTINUOUS

Rarity, Twilight, and Spike march up to find Applejack setting pies out to cool. Spike sets down his empty plates.

20 SPIKE
Hey, Applejack. Another order of pies, please.

21 APPLEJACK
Sure thing, Spike. Coming right up.

Applejack sets a tall stack of pies into Spike's outstretched claws. He struggles to balance them, stumbling out of frame.

22 RARITY
I don't suppose those pies are the last chore on the schedule for today?

Applejack looks up and sees Rarity.

23 APPLEJACK
Land sakes! Is it time for our spa day already? I've barely made a dent in my work today. Rarity, why don't you go on ahead and I'll meet you there?

24 RARITY
(frowns)
Please, Applejack, let's not kid ourselves. We both know you won't be coming.

25 APPLEJACK
Well, it ain't 'cause I don't wanna, but the work on the farm has just been taking up more and more of my time.

Twilight steps forward.

26 TWILIGHT
I hate seeing you two not spending time together.
(to Applejack)
Can't you get somepony else in your family to take over for a bit?

27 APPLEJACK
Wish I could, but Granny, Big Mac, and Apple Bloom all have chores of their own and today they're all busy taking the harvest to market.

28 TWILIGHT
(having an idea)
I know we're not farmers, but I'm sure Spike and I could handle things for a little while.

29 APPLEJACK
Maybe...

30 TWILIGHT
Is there one chore we could do?

31 APPLEJACK
(thinking)
Well... I suppose if you two got started on feeding the pigs, I could maybe leave for an hour.

32 RARITY
(brightening)
An hour of spa perfection? I can
work with that!

33 TWILIGHT
Perfect. You two head off to the
spa and Spike and I will take care
of things here.

Just then Spike comes stumbling back into frame, still trying
to balance his stack of pies.

34 SPIKE
Whoaaaaa!

The girls watch as he starts to lose control and falls out of
frame. Twilight's horn starts to GLOW right before there's a
loud OFF SCREEN CRASH.

The pies come floating back through frame, unharmed,
surrounded by Twilight's magic. Spike comes stumbling after.

35 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Yeah. We've totally got everything
covered.

Off Applejack, dubious...

SC. 5 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - MOMENTS LATER

Applejack leads Rarity, Twilight and Spike over toward the
pig pen. She holds a SCROLL in her hoof.

36 APPLEJACK
This list pretty much covers
everything you need to know to feed
the pigs, but maybe I should go
over it with you--

Twilight's horn glows and the scroll FLOATS out of
Applejack's hoof and over to Spike.

37 TWILIGHT
Applejack, please, if there's a
list involved, I am one-hundred
percent on top of it.

38 APPLEJACK
Right.

Applejack turns to Rarity.

39 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
I'm glad we're doing this. I've
been putting work before our spa
time for too long. I know we've
only got an hour, but I can't wait
to have a steam.

40 RARITY
Darling, a steam is just the start.
I know exactly what we'll do and an
hour will be simply perfect.

41 APPLEJACK
All right then, lead the way!

Applejack and Rarity trot off. Twilight calls after them.

42 TWILIGHT
And don't worry about things here.
Spike and I have totally got this!
I mean, it's just feeding the pigs.
How hard can it be?

Spike unfolds the list and realizes there are several pages.

43 SPIKE
Ah... Twilight?

Twilight looks over at the massive list, surprised.

SC. 6 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - PIG PEN - DAY

Twilight and Spike stand outside the pig pen looking in at
the collection of disinterested pigs. Twilight looks to Spike
who's holding the list in his claws.

44 TWILIGHT
Okay, Spike. Ready with that list?

45 SPIKE
Ready!

46 TWILIGHT
Let's do this!

47 SPIKE
(reading)
Step one, open the gate.

Twilight's horn glows and the gate swings open. The pigs
could not be less interested. Spike and Twilight share a
look.

48 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Okay... Step two, close the gate.

49 TWILIGHT
Huh?

Spike rechecks the list.

50 SPIKE
That's what it says.

Twilight looks over and scans down the list.

51 TWILIGHT
Wow. This is pretty involved. But
it's Applejack's list and she
obviously knows more about the farm
than we do.

Twilight's horn glows and she closes the gate.

52 SPIKE
(continues reading)
Step three, walk away.

53 TWILIGHT
Walk away? Really?

Spike points to the list. As they share a confused look...

SC. 7 - EXT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - DAY

Rarity leads Applejack toward the spa, giddy with excitement.

54 RARITY
An hour truly is the perfect amount
of time, though we will have to be
disciplined and precise.

55 APPLEJACK
I just hope Twilight and Spike can
handle things until I get back.

56 RARITY
Now, Applejack, if we are to really
enjoy this time together, you
simply must give yourself over to
the idea that you are off duty and
try to relax.

57 APPLEJACK
I know. You're right. I really am
glad we're doing this.
(MORE)

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

And as long as it's only an hour,
I'm sure everything will be just
fine.

58 RARITY

Exactly.

(opens the door)

Now, kindly step this way.

Relaxation awaits...

Applejack walks inside and Rarity follows close behind.

SC. 8 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - RECEPTION - CONTINUOUS

Rarity and Applejack enter the waiting room and are surprised to see RAINBOW DASH, sitting in a robe and fuzzy slippers, reading magazine.

59 RARITY

Rainbow Dash? What are you doing
here?

60 APPLEJACK

Yeah. I didn't think spa treatments
were your thing exactly.

Embarrassed, Dash stands, surreptitiously kicking off the fuzzy slippers.

61 RAINBOW DASH

What? Oh. They're totally not. At
least, not the "frou-frou" kind.

Applejack and Rarity share a "yeah, right" look as Dash stretches.

62 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

Yeah, I think I tweaked something
at Wonderbolts practice the other
day. I just came in for a deep
tissue sports massage.

Suddenly, the Spa Pony sticks her head in.

63 SPA PONY

Ah, Rainbow Dash? I'm so sorry, but
we're running just a tad behind and
we're not quite ready to start your
pampered muzzle massage and
indulgent hooficure just yet.

64 RAINBOW DASH
Oh. <NERVOUS LAUGH> Heh, heh... I'm
pretty sure that wasn't what I
signed up for.

Confused, the Spa Pony consults her reservation list.

65 SPA PONY
But it's your usual suite of
services...

66 RAINBOW DASH
(quickly cutting her off)
And it seems like you're really
busy today anyway. I'll just come
back tomorrow.

Rainbow Dash leans in for a quick aside to the Spa Pony.

67 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
(low)
But put me down for the same thing.

The Spa Pony nods and makes a note on her schedule. As she
slips back through the door, Dash turns to the others.

68 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Well, see you two later. Have fun.

With that, Dash exits. Rarity and Applejack share another
look.

69 APPLEJACK
(sarcastic)
Too bad Rainbow Dash just "hates"
those "frou-frou" spa treatments.
She could have joined us for a nice
steam. Boy-howdy, I can't wait.

70 RARITY
Indeed. Though if they couldn't fit
Dash in, I wonder just how far
behind things are running.
Obviously we're on a very tight
schedule.

71 APPLEJACK
As long as I get in a good steam
everything will be just fine.

Rarity walks through the doorway that leads into the spa
proper. Applejack follows.

SC. 9 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - BACK - CONTINUOUS

The two of them stand staring at a HUGE LINE of ponies all in robes and slippers and all gathered outside the STEAM ROOM.

72 RARITY
(hopeful)
Maybe not everypony is waiting for
the steam room.

One of the Ponies in line turns around.

73 LINE PONY
Oh, no. That's exactly what we're
waiting for. A good steam. Hope
you're not in a hurry.

Off Rarity and Applejack's looks of consternation we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**SC. 10 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - BACK - RESUME**

Rarity and Applejack continue to look out at the line of Ponies all waiting to get into the steam room.

74 APPLEJACK
So every pony here wants a steam
bath?

75 CROWD
<AFFIRMATION WALLA> Yep./Pretty
much./You guessed it./etc.

76 RARITY
Well, Applejack, the solution seems
obvious to me. We'll simply have to
start our short time at the spa
with something else.

77 APPLEJACK
Nothin' doin'! I came here to have
a steam and that's just what I'm
gonna get.

78 RARITY
But it will take most of our hour
just to get through this line.

Just then Aloe walks up.

79 ALOE
Rarity! My favorite customer! And Applejack! Well, it certainly has been a long time since you two were here together. So lovely to have you back.

80 RARITY
Well, I wish I could say the same.

Aloe looks out at the line.

81 ALOE
Yes, the wait time for the steam room certainly has been getting worse lately. Never the less, I'm sure we'll be able to accommodate you're usual array of treatments.

82 APPLEJACK
Not without my steam.

83 RARITY
Apparently Applejack simply can't even consider starting her time at the spa without a steam and we only have an hour.

84 ALOE
Oh.

The three of them glance back yet again at the waiting ponies.

85 ALOE (CONT'D)
That is a problem.

86 APPLEJACK
Not for long.

Applejack marches off through the crowd.

87 RARITY
Applejack, dear, where are you going.

88 APPLEJACK
I'm gonna see if I can help move things along.

Rarity and Aloe exchange a look, then quickly follow after.

89 ALOE
(calling after AJ)
Of course, we always welcome
feedback from our customers.

**SC. 11 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - OUTSIDE THE STEAMROOM -
CONTINUOUS**

Applejack, Rarity and Aloe arrive to the front of the line where the crowd seems to bottleneck outside the steam room.

Applejack looks to the shivering SPA CUSTOMERS at the head of the line.

90 APPLEJACK
Um... Why are y'all just standing
here?

91 SPA CUSTOMER 1
Just waiting for the steam to build
up.

Another one of the Line Ponies (SPOILED RICH) points to a DIAL outside the room.

92 SPOILED RICH
Without steam, a steam room's just
a room and I've got plenty of those
at home... because I live in a
mansion.

Applejack looks at the dial. A needle struggles to move out of a RED ZONE. Aloe leans down beside her and taps a GREEN ZONE.

93 ALOE
It has been taking longer for the
steam to reach that "Ponyville Day
Spa" quality.

Just then a SPA WORKER wheels in a stack of FRESH WARM TOWELS.

94 ALOE (CONT'D)
We even had to add a warm towel
service.

She turns to the shivering ponies in line who are still waiting to get into the steam and gestures to the towels.

95 ALOE (CONT'D)
So sorry for the delay, everypony,
please help yourselves.

The customers all grab towels and wrap up as Applejack studies the dial.

96 APPLEJACK
So, if you're not getting enough
steam, that must mean there's not
enough hot water...

She looks at the pipe which leads from the dial, up the wall, along the ceiling and out of the room.

97 RARITY
Applejack, honestly, can't we just
start with a hooficure? We're going
to run out of time!

Applejack ignores her as she follows the pipe around the corner and out of the room. Rarity <SIGHS> as she and Aloe follow close behind.

IN A SERIES OF SHOTS

Applejack follows the comedically laid out pipe as it crisscrosses the entire spa: up stairs, down stairs, back and forth through a hall of doors to treatment rooms where surprised MASSEUSE PONIES work on CUSTOMERS who are unaware of the pipe hunters traipsing through their room, etc.

Rarity and Aloe follow right behind Applejack as she tracks the pipe like a bloodhound into the basement until finally they arrive at...

SC. 12 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - LAUNDRY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Applejack turns a corner into the room to see row after row of washing machines all running at full steam.

98 APPLEJACK
Now, what do we have here?

Aloe and Rarity pop up behind her. Rarity looks out at the room.

99 RARITY
The laundry room, of course. And at
this point I'm considering soaking
my hooves in one of the machines so
my time here isn't a total loss.

100 ALOE
(to Applejack)
The Ponyville Day Spa prides itself
on its sanitary conditions, and
fresh linens are an integral part.

101 APPLEJACK
Well, sure, but have you always run
every single one of these here
machines full-bore, all day, every
day?

102 ALOE
I'm not sure.

Just then the Spa Worker wheels in his cart of, now dirty,
towels and dumps the entire load into one of the washers. He
casts a beleaguered look at Applejack.

SPA WORKER
The answer's no...

He turns on the washer, then takes another giant stack of
clean, folded towels from a shelf and wheels it back out,
turning to the others as he goes.

103 SPA WORKER (CONT'D)
...but ponies sure do love that
warm towel service.

Applejack watches him go, thinking, then turns and follows
the Spa Worker out. Rarity and Aloe exchange a puzzled look
and follow.

SC. 13 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - HALL - CONTINUOUS

The Spa Worker continues to push his cart of towels through
the hall, the wheels SQUEAKING as he goes.

Applejack walks behind him, watching his movements intently.

Rarity and Aloe follow behind her, curious as to what,
exactly, she is on about.

Realizing he's being followed, the Spa Worker looks back to
see Applejack, who looks up at him, smiling and nodding
awkwardly. Rarity and Aloe do the same.

Unsettled by the exchange, the worker turns back and
continues down the hall, pushing his cart a little bit faster
now, finally returning to...

SC. 14 - INT. SPA - OUTSIDE THE STEAMROOM - CONTINUOUS

The worker wheels his cart up to the crowd of ponies waiting to go in for their steam. Finally the worker turns around to face Applejack, Rarity, and Aloe.

104 SPA WORKER
Did you all want a towel?

105 APPLEJACK
Looks to me like you don't have any left.

The worker turns back around to see the crowd of waiting ponies have already helped themselves to the fresh towels and replacing them with dirty ones.

106 SPA WORKER
Well, like I said. Warm towels are a big hit.

With that, the worker takes his cart and hurries out. On his way, he passes a junction where the hot water pipe passes through a VALVE before heading to the steam room.

Small SPURTS OF STEAM shoot out around the valve. Applejack turns from the valve to Rarity and Aloe.

107 APPLEJACK
I think I figured out the problem.

As Applejack talks we WIPE through a MONTAGE OF QUICK SHOTS laying out what she describes [think: BBC's Sherlock, as Holmes reveals the intricate layers of a mystery he's solved].

WIPE TO:

CLOSE - on the VALVE, steam spurting out the sides.

108 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
You've got a small leak and that means the steam takes just a little longer to build up, and while ponies wait, they get cold.

WIPE TO:

The Spa Worker delivering a cart of fresh towels to shivering ponies who grab the towels and wrap up.

109 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
Cold ponies start wrapping
themselves in towels...

WIPE TO:

The hot water pipe running along the ceiling. PAN DOWN to the Spa Worker wheeling a cart of dirty towels down the hall.

110 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
...and all those dirty towels have
to be cleaned...

WIPE TO:

The Spa Worker dumping his load of dirty towels into a washer and turning it on.

111 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
...because Ponyville Day Spa prides
itself on cleanliness...

WIPE TO:

The Spa Worker pushing his cart of clean towels through the hall and back to...

Applejack, Rarity, Aloe and the shivering crowd of spa customers as we END MONTAGE.

The Spa Worker wheels up his cart of towels and looks up at them all staring at him.

112 SPA WORKER
What?!

Applejack looks to Aloe and Rarity.

113 APPLEJACK
Basically, losing steam makes you
use more towels. That means you're
do more laundry which uses up the
hot water you need to make more
steam so the problem just keeps
getting worse.

All the shivering ponies turn to each other and nod.

114 CROWD
<COMPREHENSION WALLA> Oh./That
makes sense./I see./etc.

115 ALOE
Goodness! I had no idea.

Rarity claps her hooves together.

116 RARITY
Wonderful. Now that we've solved
the great steam mystery, we can
finally get back to our...
(checks the clock)
...significantly less than an hour
of relaxation.

117 APPLEJACK
Rarity, are you kiddin'? I can't
just leave things like this.

Applejack walks over to the valve and inspects the steam leak.

118 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
I'm gonna need my tools.

Off Rarity's exasperated expression we start a...

QUICK MONTAGE

- The crowd of robed spa ponies huddle around watching as Applejack kneels down (wearing whatever safety gear is appropriate) by the valve, tools spread out on the floor.

- Applejack studies the valve, then looks up to see one of the line ponies handing her a wrench -- it's Spoiled Rich.

- Rarity watches from across the room, hooves crossed. PULL WIDE to reveal she is sitting while a SPA PONY gives her feet (lower hooves?) a hooficure.

- Back with the crowd, smaller now, as a pony turns to take a fresh towel from a clean stack, but Aloe puts her hoof down on top of them and shakes her head. The Spa Worker from the laundry stands nearby and smiles.

- On Applejack as she stands and looks down at the valve, no longer leaking. Pull wide to reveal there's no longer a line as we...

END MONTAGE

SC. 15 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - BACK - DAY

Applejack looks to a very impressed Aloe. Rarity stands to the side, her hooves still crossed.

119 APPLEJACK
Now that the leak's fixed, ponies
won't get so cold they use up all
those towels, and without all that
laundry there'll be plenty of hot
water for all the steam anypony
could want.

120 SPA WORKER
(giddy)
And I'll only have to do wash once
a day!

121 ALOE
Goodness, Applejack. Have you ever
considered a career in the spa
industry? I'm sure I could find
something for you.

122 APPLEJACK
No thanks. I'm just relieved I can
finally relax in the steam. What do
you say, Rarity?

Rarity looks at the clock.

123 RARITY
It sounds lovely, Applejack, but
unfortunately...

Rarity points to a clock on the wall.

124 RARITY (CONT'D)
...you spent so much time fixing
the steam room that we don't have
any time left to use it.

Applejack sees the time, realizing.

125 APPLEJACK
Huh.

Rarity wheels around and look at Aloe.

126 RARITY
And, honestly, how in Equestria did
it never occur to you to check for
leaks?

127 ALOE
There are just so many other things
to worry about. I suppose we got
used to the way things were and
didn't realize there was a problem.

128 RARITY
You obviously needed an outside eye to evaluate the situation. It's lucky for you Applejack is too stubborn to relax.

129 APPLEJACK
All right, Rarity. I'm sorry I ruined our spa time together.

130 RARITY
Oh, Applejack, you didn't ruin it. I understand, but maybe we could stay just a touch longer?

131 APPLEJACK
I'm sorry, Rarity, we'll just have to do this another day. Twilight and Spike should be done feeding the pigs by now.

132 RARITY
Come now, Applejack, Twilight is a very capable Pony. I'm sure she can figure out what to do next.

133 APPLEJACK
Look, I know Twilight is a princess and an alicorn and has saved all of Equestria over and over again, but she isn't a farmer. I've been doing farm work my whole life and I'm not sure it's something you can just figure out.

134 RARITY
Of course. I'm sorry.
(having an idea)
Why don't we pop back so you can explain to Twilight what to do next, then we'll come back here and pick up where we left off?

135 APPLEJACK
Well, I suppose I could try, assuming everything went well so far.

136 RARITY
(pleased)
Oh, Applejack, honestly! How could it not?

CUT TO:

SC. 16 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAY

Twilight stands near the top of a rickety ladder. In one hoof, she holds out a long pole with a corn cob tied to the end. In the other hoof she holds a bucket full of slop.

A rope is tied around her waist which extends up to a pulley attached to the roof of the barn. The rope goes through the pulley and back down to Spike who holds the other end, in addition to trying to stead the ladder.

137 SPIKE
Twilight, wouldn't it be easier to
just fly?

138 TWILIGHT
I told you, Spike, we are following
Applejack's list to the letter and
Applejack doesn't fly--

Twilight extends the pole with the corn at the end to one of the still totally disinterested pigs and slips. She falls off the ladder and the rope goes taught, pulling Spike into the air.

As Spike and Twilight hang from the rope over the pig pen we PAN RIGHT to see Rarity and Applejack starting at them, aghast.

139 APPLEJACK
I'm sorry, Rarity, but I think I'm
gonna have to finish these chores
myself.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**SC. 17 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - RESUME**

Rarity stares up at Twilight and Spike hanging from the rope.

140 RARITY
Twilight, darling, how in the world
did you end up there?

Twilight flaps her wings and hovers out of the rope situation, lowering Spike gently to the ground. Her horn glows as she unties the rope from around her own waist.

141 TWILIGHT
Spike and I were just trying to follow Applejack's list as closely as possible.

142 SPIKE
Maybe not the best plan.

143 TWILIGHT
I'm sorry, Applejack. But we never even got started feeding the pigs.

Applejack helps Twilight coil the rope. She puts the ladder off to the side and sets the slop bucket on top.

144 APPLEJACK
That's all right, Twilight. I know you did your best, I guess a list can't really capture all the ways I have of doin' things.

145 TWILIGHT
At least you two got to spend some time at the spa together.

146 SPIKE
Yeah, that must have been super relaxing.

147 RARITY
Well, if watching Applejack fix plumbing counts as relaxing, then yes.

148 TWILIGHT
What about your hour of spa perfection?

As Rarity starts to explain, Applejack finishes clearing away the remains of Twilight's failed attempt to feed the pigs.

149 RARITY
As it turns out, the Ponyville Day Spa had a few problems with their steam room and...
(points at AJ)
...somepony simply refused to even consider relaxing until she had fixed the problem.

150 APPLEJACK
I'm sorry, but I just couldn't let those spa ponies go another minute putting up with problems they didn't even know they had.

Satisfied that things are back to normal, Applejack prepares to feed the pigs the "right way." The others watch as she goes through the steps we saw Twilight and Spike struggled with, talking the whole time.

Applejack opens the gate to the pigpen.

151 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Somehow they just got used to a huge bottleneck of ponies just standin' around waitin'.

Applejack closes the gate to the pigpen.

152 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
But I took one look at that spa-jam and knew I had to do something.

Applejack walks away from the pigpen and off screen.

153 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Sometimes the simplest things can just derail a whole operation.

Suddenly, Applejack pops up on the other side of the pigpen waving her hooves and sticking out her tongue-- like how you would pretend to scare a small child in a game of peek-a-boo.

154 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
<BLAHBLAHBLAH> Whether it's a leaky pipe or doing too much laundry, you can't just stick to the same old way of doing things and expect things to get better.

Applejack ducks out from behind the pigpen and pops back into frame in front of the gate. She scratches at the ground with her hooves, doing her best impression of a chicken.

155 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
I mean, thinking you can is just plum ridiculous, right?

Rarity, Twilight, and Spike exchange glances as Applejack walks off then reappears in the hay loft with the rope, one end around her waist as she works the other through the pulley.

156 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
It's funny when you realize the
extra work they were doing was even
making things worse.

With the rope secure, Applejack picks up the pole with the ear of corn tied to the end, then repels out of the hayloft, lowering her self until she is positioned over the pigpen.

Once in position, she uses the pole to wave the corn over the pigs, then push the gate open, which knocks the ladder, dumping the bucket of slop into the trough.

157 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
I mean, I guess it's possible to
get stuck in a routine where you're
doing all this extra stuff and not
realize it, but I can't for the
life of me think of how.

As with Twilight, the pigs still don't seem particularly motivated. Applejack frowns then looks over to see the others just staring at her.

158 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Why are y'all starin' at me like
that?

159 RARITY
Well, Applejack, I wonder, are you
certain everything you just did is
entirely necessary to feed the
pigs?

160 APPLEJACK
What? Of course! Why would I be
doin' it if it weren't?

Applejack tosses her corn-pole aside and repels down the rest of the way to the ground. She walks over to the gate.

161 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
This gate used to squeak so loud,
the pigs would run to the other
side of the pen and never come out,
so I open and close it to let them
know it's safe.

162 TWILIGHT
But it doesn't squeak anymore?

163 APPLEJACK
Of course not, I fixed that ages
ago.

She walks away, then pops up on the other side of the pen waving her hooves.

164 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
But then I realized putting a little fright into 'em got them all a hustlin' out of the pen...

165 SPIKE
They don't look scared to me.

166 APPLEJACK
Well, no, they got used to it...

Applejack ducks out from behind the pen and reappears in front of it doing her chicken dance.

167 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Which is why I started doing the chicken dance to show 'em that if they didn't get to eatin' their food, the chickens would.

She chicken dances off screen then reappears in the hay loft as before.

168 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Of course, being a chicken, I couldn't very well open the gate.

She repels down as before, opening the gate with the corn-pole, then lands back on the ground and points to the trough.

169 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Getting the food bucket to spill into the trough was just a happy accident because one time I left it there by mistake.

She looks at them like she's just explained simplest thing, like gravity.

170 TWILIGHT
Applejack, it seems like everything you're doing is to fix things that aren't really problems anymore.

171 APPLEJACK
Well, I can see how it might seem that way to somepony who hasn't been working on the farm as long as I have, but I can't just open the gate and let the pigs eat.

As Applejack talks, the pigs get up and move over to the trough and start eating. Rarity points at them.

172 RARITY
And why is that exactly?

173 APPLEJACK
(turning to look)
Well, I'll be.

174 RARITY
Maybe it isn't so hard to get stuck
doing extra work after all.

175 APPLEJACK
Maybe not.

Applejack looks out at the farm with sudden inspiration.

176 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
I wonder if I've been doing that
around here with anything else.

177 RARITY
Well, there's only one way to find
out!

CUT TO:

CHORE MONTAGE

SC. 18 - INT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - CHICKEN COOP - DAY

Applejack, Rarity, Twilight and Spike stand looking out at the chickens in their nests.

Applejack demonstrates how she collects eggs. She dumps out a small pile of seed for a chicken who stands up and eats. While the chicken is up, Applejack collects the eggs, then moves on to the next chicken. Rarity, Twilight, and Spike exchange a look.

CUT TO:

SC. 19 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - CHICKEN COOP - DAY

Spike stands outside the coop. He dumps an entire bag of seed onto the ground, then looks to Twilight who slides open the coop door as all the chickens run out and start pecking at the seed.

SC. 20 - INT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - CHICKEN COOP - DAY

Rarity points to all the empty nests and the readily available eggs. Applejack smiles.

CUT TO:

SC. 21 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - FIELD - DAY

Applejack and the others look out at rows of cultivated fields. A long section of pipe runs along the end of the rows with a valve every few feet.

Applejack runs to one of the valves and turns it, then comes back and turns a main valve. Water sprays out watering the row.

Applejack shuts off the main valve, then runs to close the valve that was open and opens the next one. She returns to switch back on the main valve and waters the next row.

Rarity turn to Twilight and Spike.

ANGLE ON - Twilight and Spike standing by valves for all the rows. Twilight's horn glows as she opens them all at once.

ANGLE ON - Rarity uses her magic to open the main valve

Applejack looks out as all the rows are watered at the same time. Applejack nods approvingly.

CUT TO:

SC. 22 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - FENCE

Applejack bends down, using small squares of chicken wire to patch holes in a section of fence.

As she painstakingly bends each square into place, she looks up to see Rarity, her horn glowing, as she covers the entire section of fence with a much large piece that she unwinds from a roll of chicken wire like it's a bolt of fabric.

Applejack looks at the repaired section of fence and smiles.

END MONTAGE

SC. 23 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAY

Applejack looks out the farm, satisfied. She turns to her friends.

178 APPLEJACK
Thanks y'all. I guess I just got so used to doing everything a certain way, I didn't realize there were any problems.

179 TWILIGHT
Having a friend look at what you're doing with an outside eye can really help.

180 RARITY
And I suppose if it weren't for our unsuccessful time at the spa none of us would have realized it.

181 TWILIGHT
(to Applejack)
Well, now that your chores are streamlined, what are you going to do with all the extra time?

Applejack looks to Rarity and smiles.

182 APPLEJACK
I think I have a few ideas.

SC. 24 - INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - DAY

Rarity and Applejack make their way inside.

183 APPLEJACK
Think you can come up with enough things for us to do now that we have more time to relax?

184 RARITY
Applejack, please, I could plan a week's worth of treatments if I had to.

185 APPLEJACK
Well, let's just start with the rest of day for now. After all the work we just did on the farm, I am ready for some serious relaxation.

Suddenly the door to the back swings open and Aloe leads Rainbow Dash out.

186 RAINBOW DASH
Thanks for letting me know there was an opening. I don't know if I could make it without my pampered muzzle massage.

187 ALOE
Don't mention it. Shall I put you down for another tomorrow?

188 RAINBOW DASH
Absolutely. Sometimes a girl just has to pamper herself, am I right?

189 RARITY
You certainly are.

Dash turns to see her friends.

190 RAINBOW DASH
(fumbling to explain)
Oh. Hey. I was just, um...

191 APPLEJACK
Getting a "sports" pamperin'?

Dash looks back and forth between them, embarrassed.

192 RARITY
Don't worry about it, Rainbow Dash. We were just heading in for some pampering ourselves. You could always join us?

193 APPLEJACK
That is if you don't mind suffering through one or two "frou-frou" treatments.

194 RAINBOW DASH
Ah, I suppose I could take it. You know, for you guys.

Everypony laughs as they all head back and we...

FADE OUT

END

*