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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"Stranger Than Fan Fiction"

Episode 614

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TEASER

SC. 1 - INT. UNDERGROUND CAVERN - DAY

[ADVENTURE MUSIC] as DARING DO carefully edges her way across a narrow ledge. She stumbles on some loose rocks and looks down as the debris falls into the BOTTOMLESS GORGE she's precariously perched above.

She looks across the expanse at a landing where a clover-shaped AMULET sits on a raised dais, sparkling in a single shaft of sunlight from somewhere far above.

Suddenly the ground beneath her gives way and she's forced to jump for it. Dragging herself onto the landing, she glances up at the amulet when a loud HISSSSSSSSSS comes from behind her. She turns, to find herself surrounded by snakes. A COBRA HISSSES at her again, it's cowl extended and we...

CUT TO:

SC. 2 - INT. RAINBOW DASH'S HOUSE - CLOUDSDALE - DAY

TWILIGHT SPARKLE looks up from her DARING DO BOOK at RAINBOW DASH who stares back at her aghast.

1 RAINBOW DASH
Well, don't stop there! You read, I pack, that's the deal!

2 TWILIGHT
I'm sorry, Rainbow Dash. I just keep thinking about how much fun you're going to have at the Daring Do Convention. I wish Princess Celestia didn't need my help with the friendship summit in Griffonstone.

3 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah, it's a bummer you can't go. Part of the fun of a convention is having another pony to share it with.

Twilight <SIGHS> and closes the book. She hands it to Dash, who shoves it into an over-stuffed suitcase.

4 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Don't worry. I'll make sure AK Yearling signs your book.
(MORE)

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I can't believe she's going to be there. She never goes to conventions.

Twilight <SIGHS> and watches, despondent, as Dash finishes packing. Dash sees her long face.

5 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Which, I guess will be cool for all those other fan-ponies, but since you and I know AK Yearling personally...

Dash looks around surreptitiously, then leans into Twilight.

6 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
...and we know that she's secretly Daring Do, herself, it's no big deal.

7 TWILIGHT
I guess you're right.

8 RAINBOW DASH
Of course I am. This convention'll be fun, but it's nothing to get too excited about.

Twilight gives Dash a slight smile. Dash returns it as we...

SMASH CUT TO:

SC. 3 - INT. MANHATTAN CONVENTION CENTER - DAY

Rainbow Dash stands in the middle of the crowded (but production friendly) convention center, totally decked out in DARING DO COS-PLAY.

She looks around at the Daring Do paraphernalia everywhere, trying to contain herself as she NEARLY BURSTS AT THE SEAMS with excitement.

9 RAINBOW DASH
So! Excited!

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 4 - INT. MANHATTAN CONVENTION CENTER - RESUME

Rainbow Dash walks the convention floor trying not to geek-out. She passes stall after stall selling Daring Do comic books, figurines, authentic props from the various books, etc. A SALESPONY calls out to her.

10 SALESPONY
You look like a pony who'd be up
for an all inclusive, one of a
kind, adventu-cation where you get
to live "The Daring Do Experience."

He hands her a pamphlet. Dash looks through it to see pictures of various Daring Do-style locales.

11 RAINBOW DASH
No thanks. I did that already.

Something catches Dash's eye and she walks off, leaving the speechless salespony to stare after her.

Dash walks to the end of a row and her eyes get big as she stares up at...

SC. 5 - INT. CONVENTION - SAPPHIRE STONE BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Dash stares in wonder at a perfect reproduction of the treasure room from the Quest for the Sapphire Stone.

She takes a step forward, onto one of the PREDATOR ANIMAL TILES, and a thunderous RUMBLE plays from nearby SPEAKERS as lights and jets of (safely placed) FLAME flash, mimicing the climactic scene from the book.

Dash's geek-osity can no longer be contained as she smiles the widest she ever has and declares.

12 RAINBOW DASH
This is the awe--

Another off screen pony's VOICE joins hers as the both continue in unison.

13 DASH/QUIBBLE PANTS
--someest thing ever!

Dash turns to see another pony, QUIBBLE PANTS, standing on the tile next to hers. He looks just as thrilled as she is.

14 QUIBBLE PANTS
Now this is something that only a true fan can appreciate.

15 RAINBOW DASH
I know! They even put the tiles in the right order!

16 QUIBBLE PANTS
(impressed)
Good catch. I'm QUIBBLE PANTS. Nice to meet you.

Dash looks Quibble up and down. He's wearing the exact same outfit as she is.

17 RAINBOW DASH
Rainbow Dash. Nice costume.

18 QUIBBLE PANTS
You too. There's a lot of Daring Do outfits around here, but yours obviously took some real thought.

Dash takes off her pith helmet and holds it up.

19 RAINBOW DASH
Thanks. The hard part was figuring out the right--

20 DASH/QUIBBLE PANTS
(together)
--number of arrow holes.

21 QUIBBLE PANTS
Yes!

Quibble takes off his helmet and holds it up. Their hats have the exact same number of holes.

22 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Because on page eighty-four of *Sapphire Stone* it describes her dodging a "score of arrows shooting forth from holes in the very walls," but then on page one hundred and seven, Daring Do says she "barely made it past the trap's barrage of arrows." But, clearly, Daring Do is embellishing and the correct number of arrows is--

23 DASH/QUIBBLE PANTS
Twenty.

Quibble looks to Dash and smiles. Rainbow Dash returns the smile. [FADE UP UPBEAT MUSIC] as we...

START MONTAGE:

In a quick SERIES OF SHOTS, we follow Dash and Quibble as they rush around the convention floor, in nerd-tastic revelry:

- They get their pictures taken in a carnival-style "jungle" backdrop with holes for their faces. Dash pops her head into the Daring Do hole. Quibble sticks his face in the hole for Ahuizotl. FLASH as a picture is taken, then they switch places for another FLASH.

- They take their turns swinging on "vines" (i.e., knotted ropes) over a Daring Do-themed foam pit.

- They exchange gifts, laughing as they both present each other with the exact same Daring Do collectible figurine. [MUSIC FADES OUT] as we...

END MONTAGE

SC. 6 - INT. CONVENTION CENTER - SNACK BAR - DAY

The SNACK BAR PONY presses apples, filling up Tiki-themed collectible mugs with CIDER. Quibble and Dash both take a mug and sit. Dash looks down at her DD figurine.

24 RAINBOW DASH
I'm so glad I ran into you. My friend Twilight couldn't make it and even though I knew the convention would be totally awesome, it's more fun when you're with someone who really knows Daring Do.

25 QUIBBLE PANTS
I know what you mean. It's so hard to find a pony who really gets it.

Dash sets down her drink and pulls out her convention program. She looks at it puzzled.

26 RAINBOW DASH
That's weird. We've only done stuff from the first trilogy. After lunch we should probably start working our way through the other books.

27 QUIBBLE PANTS
Whoa, whoa, whoa. There are no
"other books."

28 RAINBOW DASH
What are you talking about? Of
course there are. Daring Do and the
Trek to the Terrifying Tower,
Daring Do and the Many Faces of--

29 QUIBBLE PANTS
(cutting her off)
Please don't. Just don't even
mention the titles. I'm not saying
those books don't exist. I'm saying
that I refuse to acknowledge them.

30 RAINBOW DASH
Why?

31 QUIBBLE PANTS
Because they're horrible! I mean,
there isn't a single thing after
Ring of Destiny that is even
remotely in the realm of the
possible.

Dash stands, spilling her drink.

32 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT! That's ridiculous. I know for
a fact that everything in every one
of those books is one hundred
percent possible.

33 QUIBBLE PANTS
And how could you possibly know
that?

Dash looks around at the crowd of fans that have gathered
around them and quickly thinks better of revealing Daring
Do's secret identity.

34 RAINBOW DASH
I just do.

35 QUIBBLE PANTS
(sarcastic)
Well, that's a compelling argument!

36 RAINBOW DASH
Why would you even come to this
convention if you hate Daring Do so
much.

37 QUIBBLE PANTS

I don't hate Daring Do. The first series was smart and cool and an amazing nod to old-time serialized adventure books that somehow manages to be self-reflexive and ironic while at the same time celebrating the art form without a hint of cynicism.

38 RAINBOW DASH

Okaayyy...

39 QUIBBLE PANTS

Which is why I came here to ask AK Yearling, face to face, why she sold out and dumbed down the rest of her books into just a series of impossible action sequences.

40 RAINBOW DASH

Okay, now I know you're crazy. AK Yearling is awesome and every Daring Do book that comes out is better than the last.

41 QUIBBLE PANTS

Wow. Okay. Yeah. I'm sorry but I could never be friends with somepony who's willing to believe impossible stuff is possible as long as Daring Do does it.

42 RAINBOW DASH

That's okay, because I could never be friends with a pony who's so focused on things being possible that he's willing to turn his back on the coolest hero of all time!

43 QUIBBLE PANTS

Fine.

44 RAINBOW DASH

Fine.

With that, both Dash and Quibble turn on their heels and walk off in opposite directions.

SC. 7 - INT. MANHATTAN HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

Rainbow Dash stands at the front desk, staring down a SNOOTY HOTEL PONY.

45 RAINBOW DASH
Look, just tell AK Yearling that Rainbow Dash is here and I need her help to convince a know-it-all pony that everything Daring Do's ever done actually happened.

The Snooty Hotel Pony looks down his nose at her, incredulous.

46 AK YEARLING (O.S.)
Rainbow Dash?

Dash spins to see AK YEARLING, wearing over-sized sunglasses and a head scarf.

47 RAINBOW DASH
AK! Thank goodness! I've got to talk to you! It's an emergency!

AK Yearling casts a nervous glance over her shoulder, then turns back to Dash, lowering her voice.

48 AK YEARLING
Not here.

Dash smirks at the Snooty Pony as AK leads her off. Off Snooty's eye roll...

SC. 8 - INT. AK YEARLING'S HOTEL ROOM - LATER

AK Yearling rushes Dash inside the room and quickly shuts the door, locking it behind her. She peers through the peep hole for a moment, then turns to Dash.

49 AK YEARLING
Now, tell me what's going on. Is it Caballeron? Did you see him?

50 RAINBOW DASH
Caballeron? What? No.

AK whips off her writer's clothes to reveal her Daring Do outfit underneath. She pulls her pith helmet from a nearby suitcase.

51 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
But there is a pony downstairs who thinks everything you've written after the first trilogy is totally unrealistic and terrible and I need you to help me prove to him that it's all totally possible.

AK stares at her a beat, then...

52 AK YEARLING
Rainbow Dash, I've got bigger problems on my hoofs than dissatisfied fan-ponies.

AK Yearling take off her hat, reaches inside and pulls out an SPARKLING AMULET.

53 RAINBOW DASH
Is that--

54 AK YEARLING
--the Amulet of Culhuacan. And Caballeron wants it.

[pronunciation: <http://www.forvo.com/word/culhuac%C3%A1n/>]

55 RAINBOW DASH
Whoa...

She pulls out a faded map and spreads it on the table. She tosses the amulet on the table.

56 AK YEARLING
(laughing)
But the amulet's only a key. The real treasure is hidden in a lost temple, The Seven Sided Chest of Chicomoztoc. Caballeron wants to sell it to the highest bidder, of course, but the treasure belongs in the Canterlot Museum of Ancient Artifacts, which is why I need to find it first.

[pronunciation: <http://www.forvo.com/word/chicomoztoc/>]

57 RAINBOW DASH
YES! Sounds like yet another awesome Daring Do Adventure! But what are you doing here?

58 AK YEARLING
Since I haven't found the temple yet it's the safest place for me and the Amulet. It's crawling with security and if I get into trouble, I can just blend in with all the Daring Do cos-players.

Dash nods, understanding the situation.

59 RAINBOW DASH
How can I help?

60 AK YEARLING
Just keep your eyes out for anything suspicious.

61 RAINBOW DASH
Got it.
(with a sudden thought)
Hey, does a pony who only likes your first trilogy qualify as suspicious?

AK just stares at her.

62 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Just checking.

SC. 9 - INT. CONVENTION CENTER - EVENING

Dash patrols the convention floor, looking for anything suspicious.

63 RAINBOW DASH
Okay. Looking for anything suspicious.

Dash scans the crowd and sees... Two ponies in a giant paper maché Ahuizotl costume sauntering by. Dash frowns.

64 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
This is going to be harder than I thought. But at least I don't have to listen to Quibble Pants bash all of this coolness. I wonder if I'll even recognize the real Caballeron when I see him.

As Dash walks off into the crowd we PAN OVER to THE REAL CABALLERON--Dun Dun DUNNNNNNN!

Caballeron looks out at the crazy convention floor.

65 CABALLERON
<SIGH> I find all this fanfare
around my archenemy disturbing.

He grabs a book from a nearby stall, looks at Daring Do on the cover, then tosses it aside.

66 CABALLERON (CONT'D)
I mean, where is the booth for
Caballeron?

The PONY running the book booth points across the aisle and we WHIP PAN to a line of Caballeron cos-players stretching away from a CABALLERON-THEMED BOOTH. WHIP PAN BACK TO...

67 CABALLERON (CONT'D)
I do not see the likeness.

Caballeron looks down as a YOUNG PONY tugs at his shirt.

68 YOUNG PONY
Excuse me, sir. Can I take your
picture?

69 CABALLERON
Finally! I young pony who has
recognized the true hero of these
stories, Caballeron!

He poses, smiling, as the Young Pony's camera FLASHES.

70 YOUNG PONY
Actually, it's for my collection of
villains. Thanks!

Caballeron's smile drops as the Young Pony runs off. One of the Henchponies pats him on the back, sympathetically.

71 CABALLERON
Come. Let us find Daring Do and the
Amulet of Culhuacan. I don't want
to spend any more time in this
place than I have to.

Caballeron shuffles off and the Henchponies follow.

SC. 10 - INT. CONVENTION CENTER - ELSEWHERE - LATER

Dash exits an aisle carefully scanning everypony she sees. She steps in front of a nearby Caballeron and checks "his" five-o'clock shadow, only to discover it's a girl pony.

72 CABALLERON COS-PLAYER
Hey!

73 RAINBOW DASH
Sorry.

Suddenly a voice comes from behind her.

74 QUIBBLE PANTS (O.S.)
Well, well, well, if it isn't the pony who knows impossible things can happen because she just does.

Dash turns, rolling her eyes.

75 RAINBOW DASH
Sorry, Quibble, I've got more important things to do than argue with a pony who thinks awesome means unrealistic.

Dash turns and walks off. Quibble follows.

76 QUIBBLE PANTS
No, wait. I wanna hear more about how you're one hundred percent sure that in Curse of the Jungle Queen, Daring Do could survive a sixty story drop from the top of a waterfall after sustaining a broken wing in a category six rapid.

77 RAINBOW DASH
Ugh.
(turning)
Obviously her wing wasn't broke--

Dash's eyes go wide as she spots Caballeron and his henchponies skulking through one of the aisles.

78 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Caballeron!

79 QUIBBLE PANTS
See, now THAT'S a great character!
Solid backstory. Good motivations--

80 RAINBOW DASH
No! Caballeron is right there!

81 QUIBBLE PANTS
(rolling his eyes)
Of course he is.
(MORE)

QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
(pointing to several cos-
players)
He's also over there, over there,
over there, and over there.

Caballeron and his crew duck out a side entrance and Dash takes off after them.

82 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Where are you going!?

Quibble chases after her to...

SC. 11 - INT. CONVENTION CENTER - LOADING DOCK - CONTINUOUS

Dash and Quibble burst through a set of double doors and look out at an empty loading dock.

83 QUIBBLE PANTS
(loudly)
Aaand we're out her because...

84 RAINBOW DASH
Because Daring Do told me that
Caballeron came to this convention
to steal the Amulet of Culhuacan
and I just saw him and his
henchponies come this way.

Quibble stares at Dash for a beat, then...

85 QUIBBLE PANTS
Oookaaaay. I'm gonna head back
inside. There's just a little too
much crazy out here for both of us.

Just as Quibble turns to go, two HENCHPONIES throw a sack over him. Dash looks back just in time to see Caballeron smile as a bag is thrown over her as well and we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 12 - INT. CABALLERON'S CAMP - DAY

Two henchponies pull Rainbow Dash out of the sack. Two others pull Quibble out of his sack. They both take in the scene around them. Lush jungle. Tents. A campfire.

86 CABALLERON

I do not know what Daring Do is playing at, but if she told you two fanponies of my plan to steal the Amulet, you must work for her.

87 RAINBOW DASH

(to Quibble)

Caballeron! HA! Awesome! What do you have to say NOW Quibble?

88 QUIBBLE PANTS

Wow. This was your plan to prove the Daring Do books are realistic? You bought a "Daring Do Experience, Adventu-cation"? Really?

89 RAINBOW DASH

What?! NO! Look around us! Henchponies. Caballeron! The jungle it took forever to get to! This is the real deal!

90 QUIBBLE PANTS

Riiiiiiiiight. We're ACTUALLY being held captive by Caballeron. Please. This guy's accent is all over the place.

Quibble turns to Caballeron.

91 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)

No offense.

92 CABALLERON

(baffled by all of this)

I....

93 QUIBBLE PANTS

So, what's the setup, here? You've kidnapped us and taken us to the middle of nowhere because....?

94 CABALLERON

The Temple of Chicomoztoc is somewhere in this jungle! When I find it the Seven Sided Chest is as good as mine! I just need the Amulet of Culhuacan to unlock it!

95 QUIBBLE PANTS
Uh-huh. And Daring Do has the Amulet so you came up with this overcomplicated plot to lure her into the jungle and exchange it for us?

96 CABALLERON
I wouldn't call it overcomplicated, but yes.

97 QUIBBLE PANTS
Even though she AND the amulet were right under your hoof back at the convention?

98 CABALLERON
Well, when you put it that way--

Quibble shrugs himself free from the henchponies holding him who are too confused by what's happening to stop him.

99 QUIBBLE PANTS
Okay we're done here. Great work. Seriously. VERRRRY believable.

Quibble walks towards the jungle. One of the henchponies grabs him and drags him back to the others.

100 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Listen pal, you can keep her money, but I'm not --

101 CABALLERON
Going ANYwhere. You may not approve of my plan, but I'm the mastermind here.

102 QUIBBLE PANTS
(under his breath)
Debatable.

103 CABALLERON
AND I SAY you will remain here until Daring Do comes to rescue you. And if she wants you back in one piece she will give me the Amulet! Now, tie them up.

The henchponies tie Rainbow Dash and Quibble to a tree with chains around their waists. Caballeron reveals an elaborate lock with a Rubix Cube-esque puzzle on it.

104 CABALLERON (CONT'D)
And to ensure that you don't
escape...

105 RAINBOW DASH
The Griffon's Lock!

106 CABALLERON
Ah, you know of it. Further proof
that you are an agent of Daring Do.

107 QUIBBLE PANTS
Or an avid reader.

Caballeron tosses the lock to one of the henchponies who uses
it to secure the chains.

108 CABALLERON
And now I will continue my search
for the Temple. Don't go anywhere.

Caballeron <LAUGHS> villainously as he heads into the jungle,
leaving the four henchponies behind to watch them.

109 QUIBBLE PANTS
Okay. Points for the campy exit.
(to Dash)
Listen, if I pretend to believe
this nonsense is real will you call
off the henchpony repertory theater
over there and let me get back to
the convention?

110 RAINBOW DASH
They're not going to listen to me.
They abducted us BOTH!

Quibble dramatically rolls his eyes.

111 QUIBBLE PANTS
Oh, wow. So you're going to STICK
with that script? Okay fine. We're
in a Daring Do adventure.

Quibble uses his teeth to pull a Daring Do fan button off of
his jacket. He tosses it into the brush. It lands with a
clatter, getting the attention of the four henchponies.

112 HENCHPONY
What was that?

113 QUIBBLE PANTS
DARING DO! THANK GOODNESS! WE'RE
OVER HERE!

This spooks the henchponies.

114 HENCHPONY
Fan out, we can't let Daring Do
rescue these two.

All four of them head into the jungle. Quibble starts laughing.

115 QUIBBLE PANTS
All FOUR?! I mean, shouldn't at
least ONE of them stay behind to
guard us? Oh wait, no because then
it wouldn't be a terrible Daring Do
adventure!

116 RAINBOW DASH
It doesn't matter. We'll never
solve the Griffon's Lock before
they get back.

117 QUIBBLE PANTS
Are you kidding me? This thing? I
figured out how to solve it before
Caba-bad actor made his exit!

Quibble reaches down with his nose and starts shifting the pieces around. Within seconds there's a click, the lock opens and the chains around them go slack.

118 RAINBOW DASH
(to herself)
Okay, that was pretty good.

Rainbow Dash flies up and looks around for the henchponies. The coast is still clear

119 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Quick before they come back. We've
got to get out of here and warn
Daring Do!

120 QUIBBLE PANTS
No way. I'm done with this game.
Just point me to the hotel and you
can play fanpony and hunt treasure
out here all day long.

Rainbow Dash rolls her eyes and <SIGHS>.

121 RAINBOW DASH
Fine. Let's say this IS a Daring Do
Adventu-cation.
(MORE)

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

The only way to get back to the convention is to go through it. So just follow me and I'll lead you out. Deal?

122 QUIBBLE PANTS
Ugh. Fine.

123 RAINBOW DASH
Fine.

Dash sets off and Quibble follows.

124 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
(to herself)
Maybe if I just leave you in the jungle it'll convince you.

SC. 13 - EXT. JUNGLE CLEARING/ROPE BRIDGE - LATER

Dash and Quibble enter a clearing. Dash looks exhausted from trail blazing. Oblivious, Quibble talks non-stop.

125 QUIBBLE PANTS
-- which would make Daring Do left hoofed, which we KNOW is false! And THAT is everything that's wrong with Daring Do and the Trek to the Terrifying Tower, now the problems with the next book are even MORE --

Rainbow Dash holds out a wing, stopping Quibble. They both look ahead at a giant ravine, a single precarious-looking rope bridge their only means of crossing.

126 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Right. What Daring Do adventure would be complete without the precarious rope bridge?

Rainbow Dash flies ahead. Quibble looks at the bridge nervously. He tests the plank with his hoof.

127 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Look, I'm all for making things feel as real as possible but are these adventu-cation ponies sure this thing is safe?

128 RAINBOW DASH
What? Is it too "realistic" for you? Wouldn't want THAT on a Daring Do adventure would we?

Rainbow Dash's taunt goads Quibble onto the bridge.

129 QUIBBLE PANTS
What. Ever. If this were really a
Daring Do adventure I'm sure I'd
step on the wrong plank at exactly
the wrong mOHHH--

Quibble steps on a weak plank and it breaks as his hoof falls through. He struggles to pull it out and the bridge GROANS in protest.

Rainbow Dash swoops down and tries to help Quibble out, but she just gets him more tangled and stuck.

130 RAINBOW DASH
Come on!

All of the struggling strains the bridge. It GROANS again. Loudly. Rainbow Dash and Quibble stop what they're doing.

131 QUIBBLE PANTS
Heh. Good thing this is all just a
pretend adventure. At least we know
all of this struggling won't make
the bridge fall apart.

The rope on one side of them snaps. Quibble looks deadpan at Rainbow Dash

132 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
You need to get your money back.

The rope on the other side snaps, wrapping around Dash's wings as she and Quibble go plummeting.

Rainbow Dash flaps her wings furiously, trying to shake off the rope and keep herself and Quibble from falling.

Finally she gets free but it's too late to grab Quibble and pull up. She gets a determined look on her face and loops the rope around Quibble's waist.

133 RAINBOW DASH
Hang on.

Instead of trying to fly up, Rainbow Dash puts on speed and hurtles towards the raging rapids below.

134 QUIBBLE PANTS
ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE US CRASH
FASTER?!?!?

Right before they hit the water, Rainbow Dash uses her momentum to re-direct them towards the water's edge, dragging Quibble behind her. His back hooves touch water. He's waterskiing and Rainbow Dash is the boat.

135 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
[screaming antics]

Rainbow Dash swerves around rocks with pinpoint precision.

They make it to land. Rainbow Dash tumbles in one direction and lands in the bushes. Quibble is hurled in the other direction and ends up in a pile of rope and bridge planks.

Rainbow Dash flies out of the bushes and brushes herself off.

136 RAINBOW DASH
How's THAT for not possible!

Quibble extricates himself from the rope and planks and rushes over to Rainbow Dash.

137 QUIBBLE PANTS
THAT. WAS. AWESOME! I thought we...
And then you... and the flying...
and I was like WHERE ARE YOU GOING
because going down seemed INSANE!
But then you swerved!? And I was on
the water! And the rocks?! WOW.

138 RAINBOW DASH
Yea... if you read that in a book
you might even think it was
unrealistic.

Quibble stops talking. He looks back up to where the bridge was, down to the rapids and over to the pile of planks and ropes. He smiles.

139 QUIBBLE PANTS
Okay. I'll give you that one. I
mean we could have been done for.
(realizing)
We could have been done for! What
kind of Adventu-cation IS this? I
mean that's just bad business! What
are these ponies thinking?

140 CABALLERON (O.S.)
Right now? We are thinking that we
should thank you for escaping...

Reveal Caballeron and two henchponies. Caballeron gestures behind him. An imposing temple is carved into the side of the ravine.

141 CABALLERON (CONT'D)
For you have led us directly to the
Lost Temple of Chicomoztoc!

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 14 - INT. TEMPLE OF CHICOMOSTOC ANTECHAMBER - LATER

An opening high above shines sunlight into the antechamber of the temple. Huge pillars and torches line the walls. An ornately decorated stairway leads up to a small doorway.

Two of Caballeron's henchponies drag a struggling Rainbow Dash inside. Two more drag Quibble. Quibble is scowling with his hooves crossed across his chest. Caballeron observes.

142 CABALLERON
Make sure they are secure this
time! We can't have them escaping
again.

143 RAINBOW DASH
(struggling)
You'll never get away with this.

144 CABALLERON
Won't I? You've led me to the
temple. And Daring Do is too noble
to let harm befall her companions
so the amulet is as good as mine.

Caballeron notices Quibble's silence

145 CABALLERON (CONT'D)
What? No witty remarks this time
about how silly my plan is?

Quibble looks around at the temple. The pillars, the torches.

146 QUIBBLE PANTS
This isn't the official Daring Do
Experience Adventu-cation is it?

147 RAINBOW DASH
(relieved)
FINALLY!

148 QUIBBLE PANTS

It's some cheap knock off run by a bunch of incompetent ponies that have no idea how to execute this adventure with any level of safety!!!!

Rainbow Dash groans and hoofplants.

149 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)

I mean, what was that with the bridge! We were in serious danger! I'm reporting you all to... well... I don't know who I'm reporting you to, but it's gonna be somepony important!

Quibble breaks free from the Henchponies and rounds on them all, glaring at Dash as he continues his rant.

150 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)

Oh, and this cut-rate excuse for an "experience" hasn't proved anything except that I'm right. It has all the hallmarks of a lame Daring Do adventure.

The henchponies step forward, menacingly, but as Quibble backs up he steps on a brick that sinks into the floor.

A piece of wall behind him slides open and a massive mud flow starts to pour into the chamber. Everyone except Quibble freezes for fear of triggering another trap. Quibble is so mad he doesn't notice.

151 RAINBOW DASH

Uh... Quibble?

152 QUIBBLE PANTS

No. I'M talking! Generic jungle locations? Check. Overly complicated villain plot? Check.

Quibble steps on another brick that sinks into the floor. A piece of the wall on the other side of the temple slides open. More mud flows in. Quibble doesn't notice.

153 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)

Random coincidences that conveniently get us to the next big set piece? CHECK!

154 CABALLERON
Watch where you are stepping you
fool!

155 QUIBBLE PANTS
Listen buddy, I don't take orders
from some second rate performer who
learned acting from the
supervillain school of bad accents.

Quibble steps on one final brick. It sinks into the floor.
The ground behind him slides open and more mud rises up.

156 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
The only thing this mess is missing
is some giant Ahuizotl wanna be
monster and I have a feeling that
would be a bit too much for you
bargain basement adventurers to
pull off.

Out of the opening in the floor, a giant ROAR. A SHADOWY MASS
slowly rises out of the opening, covered in mud. Two large
flipper-like hands slam down on the ground behind Quibble,
FINALLY getting his attention.

Quibble slowly turns to see a giant monstrous head peer down
at him: CIPACTLI - part toad, part fish, part crocodile.

[pronunciation link: <http://www.forvo.com/word/cipactli/>]

Cipactli ROARS again, splattering mud all over Quibble, who
finally notices it flooding the floor of the temple. Quibble
reaches out and pokes Cipactli's nose.

157 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Um... You're real.
(to Dash)
This is real.

Dash nods, terrified as Caballeron and the four henchponies
all run towards the exit. Quibble turns back, realization
dawning as Cipactli opens it's giant jaws.

158 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
THIS IS REAL!!!

As Cipactli starts to chomps down, a familiar pith-helmeted
figure swings by on a vine and grabs Quibble at the last
possible second, pulling him to a high ledge just as
Cipactli's massive teeth crash together.

Cipactli roars in frustration as he crawls out of the mud.

Dash flies up and lands next to Daring Do and Quibble on the ledge. Quibble stares at Daring Do, the amulet of Culhuacan hanging around her neck.

159 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Y-you... you're...

160 RAINBOW DASH
Daring Do!

161 DARING DO
Rainbow Dash, I told you to warn me of anything suspicious, not run off on an adventure without me. If I hadn't heard Cipactli roaring I never would have found you!

162 QUIBBLE PANTS
Whoa whoa whoa. You're real. You're... Friends with her?

He points to Rainbow Dash who nods, beaming.

163 DARING DO
We'll have to do introductions later. Right now we have to--

164 QUIBBLE PANTS
(cutting her off)
Get out of here. Yes! Thank you!

165 DARING DO
Actually, no.

166 DASH/QUIBBLE PANTS
WHAT!?

167 DARING DO
We can't leave without the treasure. And we should probably get to it before our friend gets any higher.

Daring Do nods at Cipactli, thrashing around in the rising mud just below an ornate archway.

168 DARING DO (CONT'D)
Even so, with the creature guarding that archway, we may already be too late.

169 RAINBOW DASH
Maybe not!

Rainbow Dash grabs another Daring Do pin from Quibble's jacket. She tosses it towards the opposite end of the temple. It clatters against the wall, drawing Cipactli's attention.

Cipactli Roars and bounds towards the sound. Daring Do looks back at Dash and grins.

170 DARING DO
Hey, nice move! I'll have to remember that.

171 RAINBOW DASH
(winking at Quibble)
Yup. Works every time.

The two pegasi struggle to carry Quibble as the fly through the archway, the mud behind them continuing to rise.

SC. 15 - INT. TEMPLE - TREASURE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Daring Do, Rainbow Dash and Quibble enter the room. Inside are seven locked doors, each one with different stylized battles featuring ponies and creatures carved into them. Each door has an opening the exact size of the amulet.

172 RAINBOW DASH
Whoa...

173 DARING DO
Seven doors, Seven locks. One of them leads to the treasure. I'd rather not think about what the others lead to.

Quibble pushes forward and looks at one of the doors.

174 QUIBBLE PANTS
Yeah, yeah. The classic pony and the tiger bit. I get it. All you have to do is--

175 RAINBOW DASH
(cutting him off)
Um... Maybe you should let Daring Do figure it out?

Quibble looks up and sees Dash and Daring Do staring at him. A sudden ROAR drifts in from the corridor

176 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
It's not like we have a lot of time.

177 QUIBBLE PANTS
Oh, excuse me.

Quibble makes a show of stepping aside as Daring Do starts examining the first door carefully. Rainbow Dash hangs on every moment. Quibble rolls his eyes.

Daring Do runs her hoof along the carvings in the second door. She holds the amulet up to the lock. Quibble fake coughs loudly.

178 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
(fake cough)
Notthatone.

Rainbow Dash glares at Quibble.

179 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Sorry.

Daring Do reaches the third door. She lifts the amulet and holds it close to the lock. Quibble lets out the *Family Feud* [X] sound.

180 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Eeeeeeeeeeeeeehhhhhh....

181 DARING DO
Is he always like this?

182 RAINBOW DASH
Super annoying? Yeah. Buuuttttt....
He's usually right.

Daring Do appraises Quibble.

183 DARING DO
Fine. Which lock do YOU think it is?

Quibble lets out a relieved sigh.

184 QUIBBLE PANTS
FINALLY! Look. Each door has another door that matches. THESE two both have earth ponies fighting serpents, THESE two have Pegasi fighting Griffons. THESE two have unicorns fighting bears with magic. But THIS one...

185 DARING DO
Has an alicorn on it. It's the only
one without a match. How did I miss
that?

186 QUIBBLE PANTS
I've been asking myself that ever
since book four.

Daring Do glares at him.

187 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Heh heh. Sorry.

Daring Do places the amulet in the lock and turns it. There's
a rumbling and the door slides open, revealing

188 DARING DO, QUIBBLE AND RAINBOW DASH
The Seven Sided Chest of
Chicomoztoc.

Daring Do pulls out the treasure and places it in her
satchel.

189 QUIBBLE PANTS
Uh, guys?

Quibble motions to the floor. Mud oozes in through the
doorway. All three rush out towards the antechamber.

SC. 16 - INT. TEMPLE OF CHICOMOZTOC ANTECHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

Quibble, Dash and Daring Do run out the doorway to find the
mud has risen almost all the way to the top of the temple.

190 RAINBOW DASH
The way out is totally covered! How
are we gonna get out of here?

Cipactli bursts out of the mud and roars, thrashing towards
them.

Daring Do motions to the sunlight pouring through an opening
at the TOP OF THE TEMPLE (i.e., the ceiling).

191 DARING DO
There!

192 QUIBBLE PANTS
Seriously, do you ever NOT escape
out of the top of a temple?

Daring Do and Rainbow Dash glare at Quibble

193 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
Got it. Wrong time, wrong place.

194 DARING DO
We'll have to carry mister
adventure critic out with us.

195 RAINBOW DASH
We won't be fast enough, we'll
never make it!

196 DARING DO
Well, what then?

197 QUIBBLE PANTS (O.S.)
Guys!

Daring Do and Rainbow Dash turn. Quibble has gathered a bunch of vines. He holds them out to Rainbow Dash.

198 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
I think Rainbow Dash and I have
this covered.

Daring Do looks questioningly at Dash. Dash grins.

SC. 17 - INT. FLOODED TEMPLE ANTECHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER

Rainbow Dash and Daring Do are flying just above the surface of the mud at full speed, vines wrapped around their front hooves. Quibble desperately holds onto the vines behind them, skimming the surface on his back legs like he's waterskiing.

Cipactli sees them and picks up speed. They are on a collision course.

199 RAINBOW DASH
(yelling against the wind)
Which way should we go!?

200 QUIBBLE PANTS
(yelling from behind them)
Go around! You can't go over him!

201 DARING DO
(also yelling)
Go over him are you crazy?

202 RAINBOW DASH
If Quibble says go over him, we go
over him!

Rainbow Dash and Daring Do put on a final burst of speed, flying straight at Cipactli. They are about to collide when Do and Dash both fly straight up.

The vines stretch as Quibble dangles right in front of Cipactli's eyes for a split second before the vines contract, shooting Quibble up and out like a sling shot. Daring Do and Dash follow as Cipactli ROARS beneath them.

SC. 18 - EXT. EXOTIC JUNGLE - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash, Daring Do and Quibble come flying out of the temple. They all land on the ground next to the river, tangled in vines.

203 QUIBBLE PANTS
You two are insane!

204 RAINBOW DASH
You SAID to go over him!

205 QUIBBLE PANTS
I SAID go around him!

206 DARING DO
And I said be quiet, Caballeron and his henchponies are right over there!

207 CABALLERON (O.S.)
This way! I heard them!

Angle on: Caballeron and his four henchponies searching the riverbank. A <ROAR> from inside the temple gives them pause.

208 QUIBBLE PANTS
Ok, I've got it. Let's create a fake treasure out of mud and rocks, give THAT to Caballeron and then when Cipactli comes looking for it we can--

Daring Do snaps three reeds from a plant nearby and hands them to Dash and Quibble.

209 DARING DO
Not EVERY Daring Do plan has to be super complicated.

She pushes Quibble and Dash backwards into the water and quickly follows. They use the reeds to breathe.

Caballeron and his henchponies burst through the brush but find nopony there.

210 CABALLERON
I swear I heard them!

Suddenly, the entrance to the temple behind them explodes. Cipactli comes crashing out with a <ROAR>.

Cipactli looks around and zeros in on Caballeron and his henchponies. With a ROAR, the monster bounds towards them. They immediately turn tail and run.

211 CABALLERON (CONT'D)
I'll get you Daring Dooooooooo!!!!

Daring Do, Dash and Quibble poke their heads out of the water.

212 QUIBBLE PANTS
Simple. Effective. Not particularly original or inspired, but it worked.

213 DARING DO
Who are you again?

214 RAINBOW DASH
This is Quibble Pants. He's a fan. Sort of.

Daring Do pockets the gem.

215 DARING DO
Uh-huh. There's some stairs on the other side of the temple that lead out of the ravine. I suggest you two take them and head west. You'll be back at the convention in no time.

216 RAINBOW DASH
What about you?

217 DARING DO
I've got to get this gem to a museum. But thanks for the help. Couldn't have done it without you. Both of you.

With that, Daring Do launches into the sky and flies off.

SC. 19 - EXT. JUNGLE - LATER

Dash and Quibble walk through the jungle and head towards the setting sun. Rainbow Dash looks at Quibble expectantly.

218 RAINBOW DASH
So???

219 QUIBBLE PANTS
Soooo. Fine. Maybe the later books ARE slightly more realistic than I gave them credit for. I still don't like them.

220 RAINBOW DASH
What?? How can you--

221 QUIBBLE PANTS
Wait! Hold on! Before we get in another fight, I think I finally figured it out!

Dash looks at him expectantly.

222 QUIBBLE PANTS (CONT'D)
I love the Daring Do that solves puzzles and uses her brain to get out of tough situations. And she did WAY more of that in the original trilogy. YOU love the Daring Do that is brave and awesome and comes out on top no matter what the odds.

223 RAINBOW DASH
Okay...

224 QUIBBLE PANTS
And that's okay! We might never agree on what makes Daring Do cool. But YOU are definitely cool. I mean the way you saved me on the bridge? Wow. And escaping from the temple! You, Rainbow Dash, are AWE-SOME.

225 RAINBOW DASH
Well.... I'm not the one who can locate a treasure in half the time Daring Do can. You may have terrible taste in books, but you're petty awesome yourself. In a brainy egghead puzzle solving kind of way.

226 QUIBBLE PANTS
I guess we don't have to agree on
everything to get along. Friends?

227 RAINBOW DASH
DEFINITELY friends.

They walk off into the sunset.

228 QUIBBLE PANTS
Do you think AK Yearling would
consider letting ME write the next
book? I think I could make things
clearer.

Rainbow Dash groans as we...

IRIS OUT

END