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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"Where the Apple Lies "

Episode 623

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Locked Polish: July 17, 2015
Approved Polish: July 13, 2015
Polish V2: July 10, 2015
Polish: July 6, 2015
2nd Draft: June 26, 2015
1st Draft: June 10, 2015
Outline: May 20, 2015
Premise: April 24, 2015

TEASER

SC. 1 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - BARN - DAY

APPLEJACK and APPLE BLOOM stand in front of the barn while BIG MAC loads a crate into a wagon for FILTHY RICH.

1 APPLEJACK
That's the last of it, Filthy Rich.

2 FILTHY RICH
(climbing into wagon)
Just Rich, please. And on behalf of Rich's Barnyard Bargains, thanks for another season's shipment of Zap Apple Jam.

3 APPLEJACK
Our pleasure. See ya next time!

With that, Filthy rides off. Applejack, Big Mac, and Apple Bloom turn and head into...

SC. 2 - INT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - BARN - CONTINUOUS

Applejack stops in the doorway looking inside at a stack of crates that look exactly like the ones Filthy just rode off with.

4 APPLEJACK
Um... Apple Bloom, did you pack up the cider into the same crates as the Zap Apple Jam?

5 APPLE BLOOM
Sure did! Now that I'm getting older, I wanted to prove I can handle more responsibility on the farm.

6 APPLEJACK
But the crates aren't marked. You kept track of what when into which crate, right?

Apple Bloom looks out at the crates, troubled.

7 APPLE BLOOM
Oh. Um... Yep. I totally kept track of everything.

Applejack looks at her sister.

8 APPLEJACK

Good. Because we wouldn't want Filthy Rich to get a shipment of cider when he's supposed to get Zap Apple Jam. You know how Granny feels about selling cider anywhere but on the farm. Are you sure he got the right crates?

Apple Bloom looks at the crates, then at Applejack's expectant face.

9 APPLE BLOOM

(she's not sure)
Sure I'm sure! Now why don't you and Big Mac head on to the house and let me finish up here!

She tries to hustle Big Mac and Applejack toward the doors, but instead Applejack heads for the nearest crate and opens it to reveal several jam jars.

10 APPLEJACK

If you gave Rich the Zap Apple Jam, then what's this here?

Apple Bloom blanches.

11 APPLE BLOOM

(sheepish)
Um... Extra?

12 BIG MAC

(shakes his head)
Nope!

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 3 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAY

Big Mac finishes loading the correct crates on Rich's wagon. Filthy Rich looks toward the farm house, anxiously.

13 FILTHY RICH

Granny knows I wasn't trying to make off with a shipment of cider, right? Because I would never do that.

14 APPLEJACK
Don't worry. We know exactly whose
fault it was.

Applejack casts a glance toward the barn where Apple Bloom
peaks out guiltily. Filthy nods, quickly hops aboard his
wagon and rides off.

Apple Bloom approaches and gives Applejack and Big Mac a hang-
dog look. The three of them head to the house.

15 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Now, why in tarnation would you lie
to me, Apple Bloom?

16 APPLE BLOOM
(shrugs)
I was kinda hoping I could fix it
before anypony found out.

17 APPLEJACK
Telling lies won't fix anything.
Trust me, I know.

The three of them climb the steps to the porch as GRANNY
SMITH exits the house and sits her rocker.

18 APPLE BLOOM
What could you possibly know about
it? You've never told a lie in your
whole life.

Granny and Big Mac start laughing - hard. Now it's
Applejack's turn to look embarrassed.

19 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
What's so funny?

20 GRANNY SMITH
Oh, sugar cube, your big sister
lied so much when she was a filly
the whole family ended up in the
hospital.

21 APPLE BLOOM
WHAT?!

22 BIG MAC
Eeyup.

Applejack shakes her head. She looks at Apple Bloom's
stupefied face, then turns to Granny Smith.

23 APPLEJACK

(resigned)

You may as well tell her the whole story. It might even do some good.

Apple Bloom excitedly turns her attention to Granny.

24 GRANNY SMITH

When Applejack and Big Mac were just a wee bit older than you are now, they both kept squabblin' over who could run the farm better...

As Granny narrates, everything GOES WAVY and we...

FLASHBACK TO:

SC. 4 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - FARMHOUSE - FLASHBACK

A younger Applejack (sans hat) and Big Mac stand in the same spots on the porch, only now in the past.

25 APPLEJACK

All I'm sayin' is that you may have plenty of brawn, but I'm the one with the ideas on how to run things better around here.

26 BIG MAC

(condescending)

Applejack, Applejack, Applejack, ideas are all well and good, but you can't plow a field with them. I don't know how many times I've told you that.

27 APPLEJACK

Too many!

A (marginally) younger Granny exits the house.

28 GRANNY SMITH

You two horned toads better stop jabberin' and get to workin'!

(off their abashed looks)

I need you to go into town - the apple blight's been awful and if we don't get more spray, cider season'll be shorter than a dwarf crab-apple tree.

OFF Big Mac and AJ exchanging grumpy looks...

SC. 5 - EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY

Big Mac talks his sister's ear off as they walk through town.

29 BIG MAC
...and taller ponies can reach
higher, which means I can get to
apples you can't.

Applejack stares at Big Mac, with cold fury, but BM is so caught up in what he's saying he doesn't notice.

30 BIG MAC (CONT'D)
It's like I was just telling cousin
Braeburn last week-- now there's a
pony who knows how to put his back
into a problem...

Applejack seethes, but before she can lay into Big Mac she spots a young FILTHY RICH trotting toward them, with his future wife, SPOILED RICH (now SPOILED MILK) trailing behind him, looking annoyed.

31 APPLEJACK
Hey there, Filthy Rich!

32 FILTHY RICH
Just Rich, please. And I'd like you
to meet my fiancée, Spoiled Milk.
(turns to Spoiled Milk)
Honey, this is Applejack and Big
Mac, the two hardest-working ponies
at Sweet Apple Acres.

33 SPOILED MILK
(supercilious)
You work on a farm? How... quaint.

34 FILTHY RICH
Now, dear, be nice. Sweet Apple
Acres makes Zap Apple Jam - it's
one of dad's best-sellers.

35 SPOILED MILK
You mean one of your best-sellers.
(to AJ and Big Mac)
My amazing husband-to-be is running
the Rich family business now. Did
you know that? Well, now you do.

36 FILTHY RICH
(reddening)
Don't mind Spoiled Milk. She's just
proud of me.
(MORE)

FILTHY RICH (CONT'D)

(aside to Applejack)

Though sometimes I think she just wants to change her last name.

(winks, aloud)

But she's right, I'm in charge of the store now and I'm just bursting with ideas I wanna try.

37 APPLEJACK

(excited)

Like what?

38 FILTHY RICH

Well... How about this? Cider season's around the corner - why not let me sell it for you?

39 APPLEJACK

That is an interesting idea...

Big Mac takes a breath and starts in again, in love with the sound of his own voice.

40 BIG MAC

Well, maybe it's interesting and maybe it isn't, but it's definitely not a new idea. Granny Smith told us your grandpa, Stinkin' Rich, used to ask her every year if he could sell our cider in your store, and Granny told him every year about the tradition of everypony in Ponyville lining up out at Sweet Apple Acres.

41 FILTHY RICH

So, start a new tradition! Some day one of you'll take over the farm just like I've taken over the store.

(to AJ)

I'm guessing it'll be the one with the best ideas.

Applejack looks over at her brother.

42 BIG MAC

(shakes his head)

Well, now, as I've said many a time before, ideas are all well and good, but you can't plow a field--

43 APPLEJACK

(cuts him off, to Rich)
You know what? I think we should try it. How about we give you three barrels of cider early, and if it sells well, we'll make a deal for the rest.

She holds out her hoof and Filthy gives it a hardy shake. He turns to his fiancée, who's filing her hooves, looking bored.

44 FILTHY RICH

Perfect! Come on, honey. I've got to get everything ready.

Applejack turns to her brother, who's stunned into silence.

45 APPLEJACK

(smug)
Boy, I tell ya, if the future means me running Sweet Apple Acres and you being quiet, I can't wait!

OFF Big Mac's moue...

SC. 6 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - BARN - LATER

Applejack stops to open the barn doors, as Big Mac walks up behind her, laden with spray canisters.

46 BIG MAC

I just can't believe you'd make a deal with Filthy Rich without even talking to Granny.

AJ begins unloading the canisters off Big Mac's back.

47 APPLEJACK

Aw, Granny will love this idea and then she'll decide that I'm the one who should take over the farm. You'll see.

48 GRANNY SMITH (O.S.)

See what?

They turn, startled to see Granny approaching from around the side of the barn. Big Mac puffs up again.

49 BIG MAC

Applejack here had another one of her "big ideas," and I think we all know my position on ideas, you...

50 GRANNY SMITH/APPLEJACK
(monotonous drone)
...can't plow a field with them.

51 BIG MAC
(deflated)
Right.

52 GRANNY SMITH
(to AJ)
Big idea, huh?

53 APPLEJACK
(quickly)
Actually, more of an opportunity.
You see, we just ran into Filthy
Rich in town, and he and I got to
talking and... Did you know he's
running the family store now?

54 GRANNY SMITH
And what does this "opportunity"
mean for Sweet Apple Acres?

55 APPLEJACK
Well, since cider season is almost
here he or, I mean, I thought it'd
be a good idea to give him a few
barrels of cider to sell in the
store before the season starts.

56 GRANNY SMITH
Oh, is that all?

AJ smirks at Big Mac, feeling confident, until:

57 GRANNY SMITH (CONT'D)
Absolutely not!

OFF Applejack, swapping her smile for Big Mac's frown, and
vice versa...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 7 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES, BARN - RESUMING

Applejack looks aghast at Granny's resolute expression.

58 APPLEJACK

Granny, why can't we sell a few barrels of cider early to Filthy Rich? How's it any different then when you gave Zap Apple Jam to Filthy's grandpappy to sell?

59 GRANNY SMITH

Cider and jam t'aint the same thing! Zap Apple Jam jars preserve the flavor for moons, but cider starts to spoil the second it comes out of the press. That's why every cider season all of Ponyville lines up at Sweet Apple Acres and first come is first served.

60 APPLEJACK

I get what you're saying, Granny, but couldn't you make an exception just this once? I sorta promised.

61 GRANNY SMITH

Besides, cider-makin' is iffy business. If the apples aren't picked at just the right time, it'll be too tart or too sweet. And we're probably not gonna have a lot this year anyway, what with all the blight. If we give a few barrels to Filthy Rich, that means somepony else'll miss out. Sorry, Applejack, but you'll have to un-promise.

OFF Applejack, crestfallen...

SC. 8 - EXT. PONYVILLE - THE NEXT DAY

Applejack heads toward Filthy Rich's store as Big Mac gloats.

62 BIG MAC

I hate to say I told you so, Applejack, but--

63 APPLEJACK

You and I both know you don't hate to say anything.

64 BIG MAC

(pompous)

Well, I've always thought that the most important thing a pony can do is say exactly what's on his mind to anypony who'll listen so everypony everywhere always knows everything you're thinking and...

65 APPLEJACK

And you don't ever have to listen to anypony else.

66 BIG MAC

What?

67 APPLEJACK

Exactly.

Off Applejack, steeling herself as she enters...

SC. 9 - INT. RICH'S BARNYARD BARGAINS - MOMENTS LATER

Filthy Rich looks over from talking to a customer to see Applejack with Big Mac standing behind her.

68 FILTHY RICH

Well, if it isn't my new business partner!

69 BIG MAC

(sotto)

Oh, it isn't.

Applejack elbows Big Mac as Rich trots over.

70 FILTHY RICH

Take a look at what I did last night after we made our deal.

He directs them to a corner of the store cordoned off by black curtains. He pulls a cord and the curtains part to reveal three empty barrel stands with a stand-up picture of a delicious glass of cider next to them.

71 FILTHY RICH (CONT'D)

Pretty great, huh?

He smiles at AJ, who grimaces back.

72 APPLEJACK
Um, about the cider, Rich... The
thing is, I don't think I can get
you any.

73 FILTHY RICH
(upset)
What?!
(gesturing to the display)
But I did all this work on your say
so. We shook hooves and everything.

Applejack doesn't know what to say. Big Mac quickly steps in
to fill the silence.

74 BIG MAC
You see, at Sweet Apple Acres we've
always been about quality and while
your basic jam jar'll keep Zap
Apple Jam fresh for moons, cider is
a pony of a different color. Of
course, I would've explained all
this--

75 APPLEJACK
(cutting him off)
Plus it's been a tough harvest this
year, what with all the blight.

76 FILTHY RICH
Sounds to me like you're trying to
make excuses. Whenever granddad
dealt with Granny Smith, she kept
her word. If you can't do that then
maybe our families should stop
doing business together altogether.

A beat as AJ and Big Mac absorb the import of this. Big Mac
starts to panic, losing all of his puffed up pretense.

77 BIG MAC
The thing is, it ain't really up to
us. You see, Granny's--

78 APPLEJACK
(blurts out, panicked)
--sick!

Applejack suddenly does her telltale "lying eyes" thing.

79 FILTHY RICH
(shocked)
Wait. Granny's sick?! I had no
idea!

Big Mac looks at Applejack, surprised.

80 BIG MAC
Yeah, nopony did.

81 APPLEJACK
What Big Mac means is, we've been trying to keep it quiet. We don't want people to make rash decisions about doing business with Sweet Apple Acres just because we're a little short-handed at the moment.

82 FILTHY RICH
Of course, of course. I'm so sorry.
(escorts them to the door)
Please let me know if there's anything I can do.

83 APPLEJACK
(sheepish)
Much appreciated. But right now, we only ask for your understanding during this difficult time.

Filthy Rich nods. OFF Big Mac, giving Applejack a look...

CUT TO:

SC. 10 - INT. FARMHOUSE, FRONT ROOM - LATER

...where they sit at the dinner table, Applejack withering under Big Mac's stare.

84 BIG MAC
You were supposed to tell Rich the simple truth, but instead you made things worse with a giant lie!!

85 APPLEJACK
What was I supposed to do? You heard Rich - if I told him the truth, he was gonna stop doing business with us altogether.

86 BIG MAC
Yeah, but that's only because--

Big Mac stops short as Granny enters the room with a pot of food, and they both straighten up and put on smiles.

87 BIG MAC (CONT'D)
(covering, to Granny)
I forgot to ask if we had any oat
crumbles for this delicious-looking
salad, Granny!

Granny stops in the middle of sitting down.

88 GRANNY SMITH
(huffy)
I'll go have a look.

She pops back into the kitchen, whereupon Big Mac immediately
turns back to Applejack.

89 BIG MAC
--that was only because you made
promises you couldn't keep, but
there's gotta be a better way out
of this mess than making up some
story about Granny being sick!

90 APPLEJACK
(shrugs)
Well, it worked, didn't it?

Just then, there's a KNOCK at the door. Big Mac walks over
and opens it to find Filthy Rich holding a bouquet of
flowers, while Spoiled Milk stands behind him looking like
she'd rather be anywhere else.

91 FILTHY RICH
Sorry to drop by unannounced. We
just wanted to come by to wish
Granny a speedy recovery.

Rich holds out flowers.

92 BIG MAC
(to Applejack)
Look, sis, our good friend Mr. Rich
and his fiancée are here. At our
house.

93 SPOILED MILK
(looking around)
This is a house?

Big Mac takes the flowers. He turns his back to them and
gives Applejack a death stare they can't see.

94 BIG MAC
And they brought flowers. For
Granny. On account of she's sick,
like you said. Ain't that sweet?

Applejack is about to respond when she sees the door to the kitchen start to swing open.

95 APPLEJACK
Uh, excuse me one second!

She ZIPS over and pushes the door, forcing Granny back to...

SC. 11 - INT. FARMHOUSE, KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

96 GRANNY SMITH
(catching her balance)
What in tarnation?!

97 APPLEJACK
Oh, I'm sorry, Granny. I, uh,
didn't see you there.
(lying eyes)

98 GRANNY SMITH
You came blasting in so fast,
t'weren't possible to see nothin'!

Granny starts back into the front room, but AJ grabs her.

99 APPLEJACK
Can you go out to the barn?
(thinking fast)
I, uh, think we might have left a
blight sprayer in the orchard.
(lying eyes)

100 GRANNY SMITH
(indignant)
Are you outta your apple-pickin'
mind? It's suppertime!

101 APPLEJACK
I know, but if we forgot a sprayer,
I'd wanna get it before dark.
(pushing her out the back)
You go start counting and I'll tell
Big Mac we'll be right back, okay?

She slams the door on Granny, then ZIPS back into...

SC. 12 - INT. FARMHOUSE, FRONT ROOM - CONTINUOUS

...where Big Mac rambles on to Filthy Rich and Spoiled Milk.

102 BIG MAC
--which was a good thing, because otherwise my name would be Little McIntosh, and that could be embarrassing. So from that moment on, I took to--

103 FILTHY RICH
(sees AJ, relieved)
Your brother was just explaining why he always wear his yoke.

104 SPOILED MILK
(confused, annoyed)
Even though we asked him how your grandmare is doing.

Big Mac gives Applejack a nervous grin and "help me" eyes. AJ steps forward, leading Rich back toward the front door.

105 APPLEJACK
You know how Big Mac can get to talking-- especially when he's upset. And right now, he's just as worried about Granny Smith as I am.

She leads them out to...

SC. 13 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - CONTINUOUS

...where she escorts them to the fence.

106 FILTHY RICH
Is she doing that bad?

107 APPLEJACK
Well, one thing's for sure, she shouldn't be seeing anypony right now.

AJ sees Granny exiting the barn behind them and panics.

108 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
In fact, I'm getting more upset just thinking about it. Excuse me!

Applejack DASHES past them and pulls Granny back into...

SC. 14 - INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

...where Granny has to compose herself again.

109 GRANNY SMITH
Leapin' lemmings, what's gotten
into you?!

110 APPLEJACK
Sorry, Granny! I just decided if I
helped you, it would go faster.

111 GRANNY SMITH
Well, you're too late. All the
sprayers are here.

112 APPLEJACK
Oh good.
(trying to hold her back)
Say, Granny, when did you first
fight the apple blight again?

113 GRANNY SMITH
(remembering)
Well, it was my second year here in
Ponyville...

Everything starts to GO WAVY again as Granny starts her story, but Applejack jumps out the door, narrowly avoiding getting caught in the flashback, instead finding herself...

SC. 15 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - CONTINUOUS

...where Big Mac is once again talking non-stop.

114 BIG MAC
--some folks say that's how the
apples on our farm got to tasting
so sweet, and others say that's how
the trees got to growing so tall,
but to me, it's just how I got my
cutie mark.

115 SPOILED MILK
(what the hell?)
But we asked when we could come
back to see Granny!

116 APPLEJACK
Big Mac didn't want to be rude, but
you just can't see Granny because
she's...

She looks around, spotting a sprayer beside the barn.

117 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
...got apple blight!
 (lying eyes)

118 FILTHY RICH
 (surprised)
I thought only trees got blight.

119 APPLEJACK
Yeah, that's usually the case.
 (thinking, then)
The doctors think it's from working
in the orchard for so many years.
 (lying eyes)
You see... We had to take Granny to
Ponyville General.
 (lying eyes)
We just got back right before you
showed up.
 (lying eyes again)

120 FILTHY RICH
Oh no, that's terrible.

121 SPOILED MILK
 (cringing from them)
It's not contagious, is it?

122 APPLEJACK
I'm sure you'll be fine, but you
should leave, just in case.

She starts escorting them to the road; they go willingly.

123 FILTHY RICH
You're right. We're gonna have to
hurry if we want to get there
before visiting hours are over.

124 APPLEJACK
That's right.
 (then, realizing)
Wait. Get where?

125 FILTHY RICH
Why, the hospital, of course.
 (guiding Spoiled Milk off)
I'm sure we'll see you there!

OFF Applejack, dumbfounded, as Big Mac shakes his head...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**SC. 16 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - RESUMING**

Big Mac unleashes on Applejack:

126 BIG MAC
Telling Filthy Rich that Granny's
in the hospital just made
everything a hundred times worse!
What are we supposed to do now?

Applejack isn't listening - her wheels are spinning, until...

127 APPLEJACK
I got it!

And she runs past Big Mac to...

SC. 17 - INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

AJ rushes in (followed closely by Big Mac) to find Granny finishing her story. Big Mac stares at the wavy borders of the screen, interested and confused, until they dissipate.

128 GRANNY SMITH
-- and that was the worst case of
apple blight I've ever seen!

129 APPLEJACK
I'd love to hear more, but we gotta
get to the hospital right away!

130 GRANNY SMITH
The hospital? Why, who's sick?

131 BIG MAC
You are, apparently.

132 APPLEJACK
(shoots him a look)
What he means is, you're *needed* at
the hospital.

133 GRANNY SMITH
Whatever for?

Applejack sees the other sprayers and decides to double down.

134 APPLEJACK
It's the apple blight! It's uh...
starting to infect ponies now!
(MORE)

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

(lying eyes)

The doctors need an expert opinion,
and nopony knows more about
fighting blight than Granny Smith!

135 GRANNY SMITH

Well, what in tarnation are we
waiting for? Let's go!

Big Mac opens his mouth to speak, but AJ shoves an apple in
it. OFF this...

SC. 18 - EXT. PONYVILLE GENERAL HOSPITAL - DAY

AJ, Big Mac and Granny approach Ponyville General. AJ spots
Filthy Rich and Spoiled Milk approaching from the other
direction.

136 APPLEJACK

You know, we're supposed to go in
the back. Uh, to avoid anypony in
the waiting room with the blight.
(lying eyes)

AJ hustles Granny around the back to...

SC. 19 - INT. HOSPITAL, HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

...where she spots Rich again coming from the other
direction. She hustles Granny into a room.

137 APPLEJACK

Oops, I almost forgot!

Big Mac stands in the hall a beat, until Applejack YANKS him
inside the room. OFF this...

TIMECUT TO:

SC. 20 - INT. HOSPITAL, HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Applejack leads Granny from the room, the latter dressed in
scrubs and a surgical mask. Big Mac follows.

138 APPLEJACK

This is perfect. Now you don't have
to worry about catching the blight.

139 GRANNY SMITH

(muffled through mask)
If you say so, dearie.

140 APPLEJACK
 (scanning for Filthy Rich)
Now you wait right here while I...
check on your presentation.
 (lying eyes)

OFF Granny, MUMBLING through her mask as AJ runs off...

SC. 21 - INT. HOSPITAL, LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

Applejack catches up to Filthy Rich and Spoiled Milk.

141 APPLEJACK
Fancy meeting you two here!

142 SPOILED MILK
Um... we told you we were coming.

143 FILTHY RICH
I'm glad we found you because I
can't seem to find Granny's room,
or any nurses who've even heard
about a pony with apple blight.

144 APPLEJACK
Granny's room. Sure. Just go down
here, take a left, then a right, go
down some stairs, up a bunch more
stairs, through the cafeteria, left
three more times and you're there.
Easy as Granny's apple pie!
 (lying eyes)

She starts off in the other direction.

145 FILTHY RICH
Aren't you coming with us?

146 APPLEJACK
I'll catch up! I gotta find Big Mac.

She ZIPS away. OFF the two of them, looking confused...

SC. 22 - INT. HOSPITAL, HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Applejack returns to Granny and Big Mac.

147 APPLEJACK
Okay, Granny, just wait here one
second and we can go.

Applejack grabs Big Mac, but Granny stops her.

148 GRANNY SMITH
Where are you two going?

149 APPLEJACK
Big Mac can't come. He, um...
(grasping)
...might be contagious.
(lying eyes)

150 GRANNY SMITH/BIG MAC
Contagious?

Granny mulls this over as AJ pulls Big Mac into...

SC. 23 - INT. HOSPITAL, ROOM - CONTINUOUS

...where she leads him to a gurney and pulls back the sheet.

151 APPLEJACK
All right. Climb up here and I'll cover you up. Then I'll bring Rich in, tell him you're Granny, but you're not allowed to take the sheet off. You moan a few times, he leaves, and this is all over.

152 BIG MAC
This is spinnin' way out of control, Applejack! Now I know you thought selling cider in Filthy's store was a good idea, but it ain't worth lying to him about Granny being sick and needin' to go to the hospital, or fibbin' to Granny about them wanting her to come here to talk about the blight, or about how--

153 APPLEJACK
(cutting him off)
BIG MCINTOSH, PLEASE JUST LISTEN TO ME FOR ONCE!
(off him staring)
This ain't about my ideas! If Rich finds out about all them lies, he'll cut ties with us and the farm will go under. Now do you want that to happen or do you wanna help?

154 BIG MAC
(looks at gurney)
Why can't you be Granny?!
(MORE)

BIG MAC (CONT'D)
You're her size, and this is all
your fault in the first place!

155 APPLEJACK
I would, but if I let you do the
talkin', you'd just ramble on and
on until we all got caught.

Big Mac's face says AJ has a point. He shrugs and climbs
under the sheet.

156 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Just lay down, keep still and
promise me you *won't say anything*
for once in your life.

157 BIG MAC
(exasperated)
Eeyup.

Applejack pulls the sheet over his head, then RUNS out to...

SC. 24 - INT. HOSPITAL, HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Applejack spots Granny up the hall a bit, looking around.

158 APPLEJACK
(yelling)
Granny!

Just then, Filthy Rich and Spoiled Milk turn the corner at
the end of the hall, looking more confused than ever.

159 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
(whispering)
Granny!

Granny turns toward Applejack, her back toward Rich. AJ trots
toward her, but Rich spots her and heads their way.

160 GRANNY SMITH
It's about time. What's going on
around here?

161 APPLEJACK
Granny, they need you to wait here.
I'll come get you.

She shoves Granny unceremoniously through the nearest door,
then turns around to come face to face with Rich.

162 FILTHY RICH
There you are! We've been going in
circles looking for Granny's room!

163 APPLEJACK
Well, you're in luck, 'cause it's
right over here and this time I'll
make sure you don't get lost.

She leads the two of them back to...

SC. 25 - INT. HOSPITAL, ROOM/HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

...only to find that "Granny" (aka Big Mac) is not there.

164 APPLEJACK
What the dadgum--

165 SPOILED MILK
What now?!

166 APPLEJACK
He-- I mean, "she" was right here!

AJ double-checks the door number, then looks down the hall.
An orderly wheels a gurney with one of Big Mac's unmistakable
red legs poking out from beneath the sheet.

167 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Oh no! We gotta go!

Applejack double-times Rich and Spoiled Milk after the gurney.

168 SPOILED MILK
Is that Granny Smith?

169 FILTHY RICH
Where are they taking her?

AJ sees the real Granny exit the room she put her in.

170 APPLEJACK
You two, don't lose that gurney!
(runs up to Granny, sotto)
Granny, what're you doin'? You were
supposed to stay there.

171 GRANNY SMITH
It was a supply closet!

172 APPLEJACK
Oh! Ah...
(thinking fast)
(MORE)

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Well, okay, come with me, but be quiet. You know, save your voice for the big presentation.

Applejack turns back and scans the hall, but there's no sign of Filthy Rich or Big Mac. She pokes her head in door after door, until she reaches double doors that lead to...

SC. 26 - INT. HOSPITAL, OPERATING THEATER - CONTINUOUS

AJ and Granny find themselves in an old-fashioned operating theater in the round. Masked and gowned ponies stand around an operating table. Scanning the seats above, AJ sees Rich and Spoiled Milk in the gallery.

A MASKED NURSE leads Granny forward. Applejack looks down and realizes that the patient on the table is Big Mac! She starts to rush toward him but another MASKED PONY blocks her path.

173 MASKED PONY
I'm sorry, but you can't get any closer without a gown and mask.

174 APPLEJACK
But-- but--
 (pointing to table)
That's my brother on there!

175 MASKED PONY
 (re: Granny)
Don't worry. This is our best doctor. She'll have your brother back on his hooves in no time.

Applejack facehoofs herself. Meanwhile, Granny looks up at the gallery and starts to give her presentation.

176 GRANNY SMITH
 (muffled)
Now, apple blight is a serious disease--

177 MASKED PONY
Did she say "apple blight?"

178 MASKED NURSE
I think she said "gaskin mites."

Granny pulls one of Big Mac's legs out from under the sheet to show the pale hoof and red foreleg.

179 GRANNY SMITH

(muffled)

And once the trunk turns red like this, the only thing to do is prune the branches.

ANGLE ON Filthy Rich and Spoiled Milk in the gallery, convinced they're about to watch Granny undergo surgery.

180 FILTHY RICH

Oh no! Granny!

181 MASKED NURSE

(to Granny)

Did you say "prune the branches?"

182 GRANNY SMITH

(muffled)

Well, sure. What else can you do once the blight gets this bad?

APPLEJACK'S POV: PAN from Granny getting quizzical looks from the doctors to Rich, fretting in the balcony, to Big Mac, shaking with fear on the table. This has gone on too long. AJ dashes out and slides into the center of the room.

183 APPLEJACK

Everypony just stop! This is all a big misunderstanding.

(then, coming clean)

Actually, it's a big lie!

She pulls the sheet off Big Mac and he sheepishly raises his head. Granny sees this and pulls her mask off.

184 GRANNY SMITH

Big Mac?!

Filthy Rich sees this and stands up in the gallery.

185 FILTHY RICH

Granny Smith?! What's going on here, Applejack?!

186 GRANNY SMITH

That's a darn good question.

Granny (and everypony else) looks to Applejack and Big Mac. Big Mac gets off the gurney and starts to speak, but Applejack steps in front of him.

187 APPLEJACK
I'm not sure if I was worried that
no pony was listening to my ideas or
just nervous that I wouldn't be the
one to end up running the farm, but
I promised something to Filthy Rich
that I couldn't deliver and I was
too embarrassed to admit it.

188 FILTHY RICH
So Granny was never sick?

189 GRANNY SMITH
And there ain't no apple blight in
ponies?

190 BIG MAC
Nnope!

191 APPLEJACK
Those were all lies...
 (to Rich)
...and I thought if you found out
you'd stop doing business with the
farm, so I just kept telling more.

One of the Masked Ponies turns to another.

192 MASKED PONY
 (pointing to Granny)
So, she's not a doctor?

Applejack looks up at Filthy, pleading.

193 APPLEJACK
Please don't make Granny and the
farm suffer for what I did. This
whole thing is my fault.

194 BIG MAC
That's not entirely true. Maybe if
I paid more attention to what you
had to say instead of talking all
the time, none of this would have
happened in the first place. Maybe
I just need to talk less and listen
more...
 (to AJ)
Especially to you.

195 APPLEJACK
Thanks, big brother. And whether
it's me running Sweet Apple Acres
or you, I know it'll be in good
hooves.

They embrace.

196 GRANNY SMITH
I don't know what in blazes you two
are talking about. I'm not going
anywhere any time soon. Pfft!
Running the farm. Not after this
display. Not likely.

She looks up into the gallery at Rich.

197 GRANNY SMITH (CONT'D)
And don't you go getting any ideas
about "cutting ties" with Sweet
Apple Acres, or I'll go right to
your grandpappy, get me?

Rich glances at Spoiled Milk, who glowers at him.

198 FILTHY RICH
(nervous)
<AHEM> Um... Yes, ma'am.

199 GRANNY SMITH
Now, who here still wants to hear
about apple blight?

As the hospital staff all slowly raise their hooves,
Applejack can't help but smile. Everything GOES WAVY as we...

FLASHFORWARD TO:

SC. 27 - INT. SWEET APPLE ACRES, FARMHOUSE - PRESENT

...where grown Applejack casts a sheepish grin down at Apple
Bloom, who stares up at her, slack-jawed.

200 APPLE BLOOM
I can't believe you told all those
lies!

201 APPLEJACK
(nods glumly)
It's not a story I'm proud of, but
it taught me a lifelong lesson
about being honest.
(MORE)

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
(gives AB a serious look)
I hope you learned something too.

202 APPLE BLOOM
(excited)
I sure did! I learned that no pony
starts out perfect and sometimes
you gotta make a few mistakes to
figure out who you are. Of course,
you two made way more than me.

Applejack starts to object, but Big Mac puts a hoof on her
shoulder.

203 BIG MAC
Eeyup!

204 APPLE BLOOM
But I think the most important
thing I learned is who really runs
Sweet Apple Acres...

They all turn to Granny Smith.

205 ALL
Granny!

206 GRANNY SMITH
Yer darn tootin'! Now everypony
quit yer dawdlin' and get back to
work.
(pulls a tray from O.S.)
Right after we have a glass of
cider!

OFF this smiling Apple Family tableau...

END