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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8

The Maud Couple
Ep 803

LOCKED SCRIPT

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TEASER**SC.1 INT. PONYVILLE CAFE - NIGHT**

A SPOTLIGHT ON A BRICK WALL, a la *The Comedy Cellar* or *The Improv*. Silhouettes of ponies in the audience, watching MAUD PIE in the middle of a set...

1 MAUD PIE
What do you call an Alicorn with no wings and no horn?
(beat)
"Earth Pony."

2 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
AHHH HAHAHAHAAH!

3 MAUD PIE
But seriously, being an Earth Pony isn't so bad. We've got magic powers too. Like walking around... and picking stuff up with our teeth.

Long pause.

4 MAUD PIE (CONT'D)
That's sarcasm by the way.

5 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
Hahahahahaha!

In the audience, ponies look at each other, not sure whether or not to laugh... Except at one table, where PINKIE PIE pounds her hoof, rolling in hilarity.

6 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Ahhhh... haha ha... hoooo...
(wiping tears)
...It's funny cause it's true!

ONSTAGE, Maud nods to the audience.

7 MAUD PIE
And that's my set.

There's no applause. She is about to step away from the wall when Pinkie leaps in next to her and addresses the audience--

8 PINKIE PIE
Isn't my sister Maud the most hilarious, entertaining, AMAZING comedian ever?!

The audience shares a look - then <BURSTS INTO LAUGHTER> at the very idea.

Pinkie just hears their laughing as an agreement with her, and she looks at her big sister, happily idolizing her.

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC.2 EXT. PONYVILLE CAFE - SAME

Maud and Pinkie step outside. <LAUGHTER> gets muffled as the door closes behind them.

9 PINKIE PIE
That was SOOOO GREAT! Your jokes!
Your hilarious delivery! Your..
your... your EVERYTHING!

10 MAUD PIE
How was my...
 (long pause)
...timing?

11 PINKIE PIE
Ha! You got me! C'mon! Let's
celebrate, sister style! We could
get matching stickers that say
"Eyes on the Pies!," <<ALT: "Sur-
PIES!">> then show them off at the
Ponyville Sticker Convention that I
could plan for tomorrow if you
want?

12 MAUD PIE
Actually, I'm busy tonight.

Pinkie looks wounded, getting sadder with each "day."

13 PINKIE PIE
Aw, that's what you said yesterday.
And the day before that. And the
day before the day before that!

Pinkie Pie looks at Maud expectantly. Maud looks at her, deadpan. PP loses her steam a bit.

14 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
...It's just, we haven't hung out
in a really long time because you
always have other plans, even when
you promised to build whip cream
pyramids with me--

15 MAUD PIE
I know. I am sorry, Pinkie. The
reason is--

Pinkie cuts her off, holding her hoof to Maud's mouth.

16 PINKIE PIE
Apology accepted. As long we get
some serious sister time before
your birthday.
(feigns nonchalance)
And there's definitely no reason I
want to hang out before your
birthday... just, you know, not
planning anything special.

17 MAUD PIE
Okay.

18 PINKIE PIE
What about tomorrow morning?

19 MAUD PIE
Okay.

Pinkie lights up and whoops with joy.

20 PINKIE PIE
Yay! Just you and me! Best Sister
Friends Forever!

21 MAUD PIE
Best Sister Friends Forever.

22 PINKIE PIE
I can't wait for tomorrow to be
today! EEEEEEEEEEE--!

CUT TO:

SC.3 EXT. GEM CAVE - THE NEXT DAY

PP's line continues into this scene--

23 PINKIE PIE
(continuing high pitched
glee sound)
--EEEEEEEEEEEEEE! Tomorrow is today!

She sproings into the gem cave...

SC.4 INT. GEM CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

Pinkie leaps into FRAME, joyful--

24 PINKIE PIE
Who's ready for some fun times at
Sugarcube Corner? The answer is
YOU! I would also accept "Maud."

...But it's empty. Nowhere to hide.

25 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Maud? MAUD?!

Pinkie looks worried for a moment - then beams again.

26 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
<gasp> I get it! We're playing
hide and go seek!

SC.5 INT. STARLIGHT GLIMMER'S ROOM - LATER

CLOSE ON Starlight Glimmer's door. <KNOCK KNOCK>. STARLIGHT
opens it to reveal Pinkie Pie.

27 PINKIE PIE
Ah-HA! Found you!

Pinkie Pie points at the empty air next to Starlight Glimmer.
After a moment, PP blinks.

28 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Where's Maud? I've already checked
Discord's dimension, Granny Smith's
wax museum, AND Yakyakistan! She
has to be here.

SG looks at Pinkie confused. She points to a book nearby.

29 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Nope, it's just me, reading.

Pinkie walks over to the book and flips through the pages.

30 PINKIE PIE
Story checks out.
(getting super-up close)
OR DOES IT?!?!?
(soft)
It does.

Pinkie casually strolls around the room, as Starlight watches, concerned and weirded out.

31 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
But are you sure there's nopony
hiding... IN YOUR CLOSET?!

A SPOTLIGHT as Pinkie dramatically points to the wall.

32 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Pinkie...I don't have a closet.
(then) Is everything okay?

33 PINKIE PIE
No. I was supposed to go birthday
cake shopping with Maud today--

Starlight looks shocked--

34 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
And ruin her surprise party?!

35 PINKIE PIE
I wasn't going to tell her why,
silly! But now I can't even find
Maud. And I'm usually way better at
hide and seek than this.

Starlight Glimmer shrugs, reassuring Pinkie:

36 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
She probably just found a new rock
formation and forgot you two were
going to hang out. Tell you what -
you take care of the cake, and I'll
look for Maud.

37 PINKIE PIE
Really? Thanks, Starlight!

Pinkie Pie can't help herself and looks under the bed (or behind a bookshelf) for Maud.

38 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Just checking...

SC.6 INT. BAKING SUPPLY SHOP - LATER

It's the Ponyville Sur La Table. Pinkie (with GUMMY clamped on her tail) walks in past MUDBRIAR. She sneaks up to the counter to lean in and loudly whisper to the SHOP PONY:

39 PINKIE PIE
I've got to get very important ingredients for a very important pony's cake, and it's gotta be tippy-top-super-duper-secret, if you know what I mean...

The Shop Pony opens her mouth to respond but before she can a voice from off-screen...

40 MUDBRIAR (O.S.)
Technically...? It's not your turn yet.

Surprised, Pinkie notices a STALLION (MUDBRIAR) next to her. He sounds like Maud Pie meets *Napoleon Dynamite*.

41 PINKIE PIE
Oh, I'm sorry. Didn't mean to cut in front of anypony.

Pinkie stares at him and he stares back. He stands there for a LONG time... doing nothing.

42 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Uh...Whatcha doin'?

43 MUDBRIAR
I am currently speaking to a pony at a baking supply shop two minutes before it closes for lunch.

44 PINKIE PIE
Riiiiight. Okay.

Mudbriar turns back to the Shop Pony, still silent. CLOSE ON his pensive face. Pinkie rises into FRAME behind him.

45 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
It's just that I'm trying to plan a party here, and the clock is ticking while you, uh... What are you doing, anyway?

Mudbriar blinks.

46 MUDBRIAR
I am currently speaking to--

Pinkie is starting to get a little frustrated.

47 PINKIE PIE
--I mean, can I help you move this
along? What are you looking for?
Rolling pins? Cupcake tins? Cookie
cutters with tails and fins?

Pinkie grabs and balances each item as she names it.

Mudbriar just stares at the Shop Pony for a long time, then--

48 MUDBRIAR
.....Goodbye.

Pinkie gapes and drops all the baking supplies. <CLANG!>

49 PINKIE PIE
THAT'S what you've been standing
here all this time to say?!

50 MUDBRIAR
I was deciding between "goodbye"
and "see you later."

Pinkie's jaw drops. What is UP with this pony?

51 PINKIE PIE
But...They're the same thing!

52 MUDBRIAR
Technically...? They're very
different. "See you later" implies
an event in the near future wherein
we see each other. Goodbye
expresses good wishes when parting
or at the end of a conversation.

Pinkie steers him toward the door.

53 PINKIE PIE
Yeaaaah. Same thing.

Mudbriar stops in his tracks, causing Pinkie to come to an
abrupt halt.

54 MUDBRIAR
I will not apologize for speaking
with precision.

55 PINKIE PIE
(finally had enough)
In that case, apology not accepted!
Goodbye-later-seeya-same thing!

She CLOSES THE DOOR on him. She gives her bangs an exasperated exhale--

56 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Can you believe that guy?!

She turns to the Shop Pony to share her frustration... Only to see...SHE'S GONE! There's only a note on the counter.

57 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(reading)
"Out to lunch?" Oh come on!

SC.7 EXT. BAKING SUPPLY SHOP - MOMENTS LATER

Pinkie Pie exits, frustrated and ranting to GUMMY, now riding on her head.

58 PINKIE PIE
No Maud, no cake, no anything! And how annoying was that pony? Who takes that long to say goodbye?! Or was it "see you later?" Ahh, now he's got me doing it!

She's so worked up she bumps right into somepony. Gummy goes comically flying.

59 MAUD PIE
Hello, Pinkie Pie.

60 PINKIE PIE
MAUD! Found you! My turn to hide!

Before Pinkie can bounce off, Maud stops her--

61 MAUD PIE
I'm sorry I wasn't around this morning.

62 PINKIE PIE
(playing it off)
Psh, pft, what are you apologizing to me for? I'm not upset, you silly willy.

63 MAUD PIE
The reason is I--

64 PINKIE PIE
(continues her sentence)
--Want to hang out right now?
(MORE)

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I mean, I can see you're not doing
anything with anypony else.

Pinkie looks around to check and adds hopefully--

65 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Unless they're invisible or
reeeaally small...

66 MAUD PIE
Pinkie. The reason I've been so
busy is that I have a boyfriend
now.

Pinkie Pie's jaw hits the ground. Each reaction is a crazier,
bigger TAKE, while Maud's delivery is exactly the same.

67 PINKIE PIE
A WHAAAAAA?

68 MAUD PIE
A boyfriend.

69 PINKIE PIE
A WHAAAAAA?

70 MAUD PIE
A boyfriend.

71 PINKIE PIE
A WHAAAAAA?

72 MAUD PIE
A boyfriend.

Pinkie breaks into a huge grin.

73 PINKIE PIE
That's so exciting! MY sister! IN
LOVE!!!

74 MAUD PIE
Technically, we're "in like."

Pinkie Pie is bouncing off the trees she's so excited.

75 PINKIE PIE
Tell me EVERYTHING! Who is he?!
What's his favorite color? Does he
like ice cream? If he were a bird
what kind of bird would he be?
Wait. Is he actually a bird? I
don't know because you haven't told
me anything yet!!!

76 MAUD PIE
You'll like him. We have a lot in
common.

77 PINKIE PIE
Well, I love you, so I know I'm
going to love your boyfriend! I
can't wait to meet him!

78 MAUD PIE
You don't have to.

Maud looks OS. We PAN OVER to a rock.

Pinkie looks surprised, then beams to Maud.

79 PINKIE PIE
<gasp> He's a rock! And you love
rocks, so it's perfect.
(then, whisper)
Is Boulder jealous?

80 MAUD PIE
No, behind the rock. Mudbriar, are
you back there...?

Maud's boyfriend steps out from behind the rock.

81 MUDBRIAR
Technically...? Not anymore.

PINKIE GASSSSSSPS in horror/disbelief/act break tension!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC.8 EXT. PONYVILLE - SAME

...Picking up where we left off, Pinkie Pie's brain tries to
process all this.

82 MAUD PIE
Pinkie Pie, meet Mudbriar.

83 MUDBRIAR
Technically? We've already met.

Pinkie Pie finally finds her voice...

84 PINKIE PIE
(shocked)
You...?

85 MUDBRIAR
Yes.

86 PINKIE PIE
(sad)
...You!?

87 MUDBRIAR
Yes.

88 PINKIE PIE
(catching herself)
I mean... you!
(VERY happy)
You! You! You!

89 MUDBRIAR
Yes. Yes. Yes.

90 PINKIE PIE
(getting it together)
I'm sorry, let's start over. Hi!
I'm Maud's sister, Pinkie Pie.

91 MUDBRIAR
I know.

Awkward moment. Pinkie Pie frets for something to say. Maud and Mudbrair stare at her.

92 PINKIE PIE
So... How did... You two meet?

93 MAUD PIE
At a rock show.

94 PINKIE PIE
Oh, you're into rocks too?

95 MUDBRIAR
No. I like sticks.

Pinkie is getting increasingly frustrated at being shut down.

96 PINKIE PIE
Then why were you at a rock show?!

97 MUDBRIAR
It was a petrified wood show, which
technically makes it a stick show.

They're smiling at each other, almost flirting... (!!!)

98 MAUD PIE
...Except that in the
permineralization process of
petrification, all organic material
is replaced with silicates, i.e.
rocks--

99 MUDBRIAR
--while retaining the original
structural elements of wood, q.e.d.
It was a stick show.

Maud smiles-- he's good. He smiles back. It's a sweet moment.
PULL BACK TO AWKWARDLY REVEAL PINKIE PIE, standing there.

100 PINKIE PIE
I'm... Really into sticks too!
They're great for hitting piñatas!

Pinkie reaches up and grabs a PINATA and stick from the top
of the screen. She winds up to hit it...

101 MAUD PIE
(soft, admonishing)
Pinkie...!

Pinkie pauses, wondering what she did wrong... Then,
realizing, offers the stick to Mudbriar.

102 PINKIE PIE
You wanna go first?

Mudbriar snatches the stick and protects it.

103 MUDBRIAR
That is stick abuse.

Pinkie kicks the pinata OS.

104 PINKIE PIE
It is? I'm sorry. Ugh, this is
awful, I am not being a very good
sister. Let's start over. I'm
Pinkie Pie, nice to meet you.

105 MUDBRIAR
Technically? We've already met.

Pinkie is feeling super-awkward. Maud rescues her, telling
Mudbriar--

106 MAUD PIE
You should introduce Pinkie to your
pet.

Mudbriar reveals a little stick (TWIGGY) and puts it down in
the dirt. Pinkie smiles.

107 PINKIE PIE
Oh! Your pet likes fetch!

108 MUDBRIAR
This is my pet. So no.

Maud places BOULDER down next to the stick.

109 MAUD PIE
Look at Twiggy and Boulder playing
together.

110 MUDBRIAR
They're adorable.

Pinkie Pie is confused and whispers to Maud.

111 PINKIE PIE
It's just a stick...

112 MAUD PIE
Don't be rude.

Pinkie blushes.

113 PINKIE PIE
I'm sorry! I'm sorry! One more
time... I'm Pinkie Pie, nice to
meet you.

114 MUDBRIAR
Technically? We've already met.

115 PINKIE PIE
Hrnphhhhhhhh--!

Pinkie Pie scrunches up her face and holds her breath...

HARD CUT TO:

SC.9 INT. STARLIGHT GLIMMER'S ROOM - LATER

Pinkie lets out her breath and rolls on the floor in agony.

116 PINKIE PIE
AHHHH! I don't get this guy!!!

117 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Wow! Maud has a boyfriend?

Pinkie Pie starts bouncing all over the room as she expounds on her point. Starlight ducks and weaves.

118 PINKIE PIE
Ughhhhhhhhh. How can she like someone so weird?! Maud is hilarious, friendly, caring, and easy to talk to!

119 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Yup, that's Maud.

120 PINKIE PIE
But this guy is awkward, quiet, and kind of... strange!

121 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Um, that also sounds like Maud.

Pinkie <LAUGHS>.

122 PINKIE PIE
You're so funny, Starlight! Maud is nothing like Mudbriar. If she were, then we wouldn't be best sister friends forever.

123 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Well, Maud obviously likes something about him.

Pinkie <HARUMPHS>. Starlight coaxes her friend--

124 STARLIGHT GLIMMER (CONT'D)
Maybe you just need to spend more time with him, find out what you have in common.

125 PINKIE PIE
That's easy. Nothing!

126 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
You both care about Maud. I know! He could help you with her party!

127 PINKIE PIE
(reluctant)
...I guess.

128 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
And I'll keep Maud busy while you
and Mudbriar plan the best surprise
birthday ever!

129 PINKIE PIE
 (turns determined)
That, I can do.

CUT TO:

SC.10 INT. PINKIE PIE'S ROOM - LATER

Mudbriar follows Pinkie into her room as she begins filling
him in.

130 PINKIE PIE
Listen. Maud's birthday is tomorrow
and there's no time to waste.
You're not afraid of slides, are
you?

131 MUDBRIAR
No, why?

132 PINKIE PIE
No reason!

Pinkie pulls the secret switch and they both tumble...

SC.11 INT. PARTY PLANNING CAVE - LATER

...sliding down the slide and into...

133 PINKIE PIE
Welcome to my PARTY PLANNING CAVE!

Mudbriar dusts himself off and checks it out.

134 MUDBRIAR
Technically? Due to the speleothem
growing from the ceiling, this is
more of a cavern than a cave. Maud
taught me that.

Pinkie ignores that, pulling out her files on Maud and begins
to run ideas past him.

135 PINKIE PIE
Here's what I'm thinking for her
surprise party: edible rock candy
plates, gem-shaped ice cubes, a
pebble piñata--
(off his look)
--uh, we'll skip that one.

136 MUDBRIAR
Perchance, might I make some
suggestions?

137 PINKIE PIE
Suggest away! That's why you're
here. You and me, planning
together. Friends.

138 MUDBRIAR
I have a vision board of everything
Maud loves, and none of those
things are on it.

Pinkie crosses her arms, skeptical.

139 PINKIE PIE
Let me see this "vision board."

140 MUDBRIAR
I don't have it. I'm en-visioning
it.

He closes his eyes and mumbles, "envisioning..."

141 MUDBRIAR (CONT'D)
Just as I thought. Maud doesn't
like surprises.

Pinkie Pie gets next to him, trying to see whatever he sees.

142 PINKIE PIE
Where does it say that? She never
told me that!

143 MUDBRIAR
It sounds like she was protecting
your feelings. She's very caring
that way.

Pinkie is starting to lose it.

144 PINKIE PIE
Stop acting like you know my sister
better than me!

Mudbriar raises a hoof.

145 MUDBRIAR
Technically, I never said that.

He's right, and this drives Pinkie nuts.

146 PINKIE PIE
Well...TECHNICALLY I don't care!
And since I've been best sister
friends forever with Maud my ENTIRE
LIFE I think I'm the expert here.
But fine...If you don't believe me,
let's ask her.
 (grabbing him, super
 close)
BUT WE HAVE TO BE SUPER SNEAKY!

147 MUDBRIAR
Can you be more specific?

SC.12 EXT. PONYVILLE PARK - LATER

Starlight and Maud are flying kites, when Pinkie Pie and Mudbriar walk up. Starlight looks from Mudbriar to the frazzled Pinkie.

148 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
You must be Mudbriar! I'm Starlight
Glimmer, nice to meet you!
 (pointed for Pinkie)
I've heard great things. I'm so
glad the two of you are spending
time together! So, how's it
goingggggg...?

149 PINKIE PIE
Mudbriar and I have just spent the
BEST time bonding and we're really
starting to make some headway
becoming besties, except for one
teensy weensy disagreement that
maybe you could settle, Maud. See,
Mudbriar here seems to think that
you don't like surprise parties.
Isn't it funny how wrong he is!?

Maud thinks it over.

150 MAUD PIE
I like surprise parties...
 (Pinkie beams, then)
 (MORE)

MAUD PIE (CONT'D)

...Because I know they make you
happy when you throw them for me.

151 PINKIE PIE
See?! WAIT, WHAT!??

Pinkie is freaking out. Maud shrugs--

152 MAUD PIE
I'd rather just do something small
with you and Mudbriar for my
birthday.

Pinkie is losing it-- she can't understand what is happening.

153 PINKIE PIE
No party?! NO PARTY!?? Did he put
you up to this?

Maud shakes her head no. Pinkie pulls her aside in a not-so-
stage whisper:

154 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Maybe you should consider, I don't
know, taking things a little less
serious with Mudbriar, because he's
kinda, sorta... IMPOSSIBLE TO LIKE.

Starlight quickly covers, pulling him away--

155 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Heyyyyyy! Have you ever flown a KITE?
Lemmie tell you all about it, see,
the first thing you should do is...

Meanwhile:

156 PINKIE PIE
I just can't believe you would
choose sitting around with him over
a party with your own sister.

157 MAUD PIE
I didn't "choose" either of you.
Technically? I said I wanted to be
with both of you.

158 PINKIE PIE
<GASP!> TECHNICALLY??! You even
like the way he talks?!

159 MAUD PIE
Everything about him makes me
happy.

Starlight and Mudbriar pause in their kite discussion and turn to see Pinkie backing away, confused and hurt.

160 PINKIE PIE
Then...I guess you don't need a
best sister friend forever anymore.

161 MAUD PIE
Pinkie...

162 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Wait, let's all slow down and talk
about this--

163 PINKIE PIE
No!

Before Maud can react, Pinkie gallops away crying.

164 MUDBRIAR
(calls)
See you later!

SC.13 EXT. PONYVILLE - MOMENTS LATER

A distraught Pinkie Pie gallops through Ponyville...

165 PINKIE PIE
I don't understand! How could Maud
like Mudbriar? Is it opposite day?!
Nothing makes sense!

Cartoony visions of the heads of THE MANE 6 swirl around her, their voices overlapping and echoey...

166 FLUTTERSHY (V.O.)
I'm not shy. And I hate animals.

167 RARITY (V.O.)
Fashion? Not for me, Darling.

168 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
Pthew, an apple a day is downright
disgusting.

169 RAINBOW DASH (V.O.)
Slow and steady wins the race.

170 TWILIGHT (V.O.)
I never learned to read!

As Pinkie runs, visions of her friends <LAUGH> around her.

COUNTER DOLLY ZOOM ON Pinkie Pie, the full horror of this revelation finally dawning on her--

171 PINKIE PIE
WHAT IF I STOP LIKING CUPCAKES?!!

She <SCREAMS>, running off to the horizon as we FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC.14 EXT. THE PIE FAMILY ROCK FARM - MORNING

It's sunrise on the rock farm. A rooster <CROWS>.

SC.15 INT. PIE FAMILY BEDROOM - MORNING

Pinkie Pie's eyes snap open.

172 PINKIE PIE
 (so happy)
Good morning!
 (then, remembering)
Oh, wait... bad morning.

She <SIGHS> and pulls the pillow over her head. WIDER revealing the beds are empty except for her. IN THE DOORWAY, LIMESTONE PIE peeks in, looks at Pinkie fondly, then yells:

173 LIMESTONE PIE
GET UP, PINKIE PIE! IF YOU'RE GONNA
BE HERE YOU GOTTA WORK!

SC.16 EXT. THE ROCK FARM - DAY

In the dirt field between the house and barn, Pinkie Pie walks with Marble Pie. They trail behind Limestone, all three rock farming. MA and PA PIE can be seen in the distance.

174 PINKIE PIE
You're probably wondering why I
came back to the family farm in the
middle of the night last night.

175 MARBLE PIE
Mmm-hmm.

176 PINKIE PIE
Well, it all started when--

177 LIMESTONE
Less jawing, more farming!

178 MARBLE PIE
(disapproving, to
Limestone)
Mmmmm.

179 PINKIE PIE
It's just-- Maud has a boyfriend.

Limestone startles and even drops a rock. She covers:

180 LIMESTONE
Wow. I'm not jealous. Who said
anything about jealous?

181 PINKIE PIE
Don't be! He's super-duper weird!
And somehow he tricked Maud into
liking him. Now I'll never get to
see her ever again.

(then, pleads)
I came home because you two know her
better than anypony. What am I
missing? What does she see in him?
What does he have that I don't?

Marble looks at her, sad. Pinkie Pie bursts into OVER THE TOP
SOBBING. Limestone shields herself from the tear fountain.

182 LIMESTONE PIE
Buck up, Pinkie Pie! You look as
miserable as I feel all the time.

Pinkie Pie slumps lower than low.

183 PINKIE PIE
It's just that I love Maud and I
WANT to love Mudbriar, but I can't
see anything to LIKE about him!

Marble looks at Limestone, determined. She points with her
nose to a dirt patch nearby.

184 LIMESTONE PIE
Ugh, fine. We're taking a work
break. C'mon.

Limestone takes Pinkie and Marble over to a dirt patch with a
small gray rock in the middle.

185 LIMESTONE PIE (CONT'D)
I'm looking at a sparkling bright
blue and white rock. See it?

186 PINKIE PIE
You mean that lumpy gray one?

187 LIMESTONE PIE
No, the beautiful blue and white
one, right there.

She points at the LUMPY GRAY ROCK.

188 PINKIE PIE
I would not describe that as
beautiful, blue, or white, but...
okay.

189 LIMESTONE
Show her.

Marble CRACKS OPEN the rock, which turns out to be A GEODE!
The hollow inside is encrusted with blue and white gems.

190 LIMESTONE PIE
It's a geode. The outside looks
like a regular rock, but the inside
is filled with beautiful gems.

A beat, then Pinkie GETS IT!

191 PINKIE PIE
So you're saying... I should crack
open Mudbriar like a rock! IT ALL
MAKES SENSE. No wait, it doesn't.

192 LIMESTONE
It's a METAPHOR, Pinkie! You see
Mudbriar as a rock, but Maud sees
him as a gem. Even if you never see
past his dullness, you CAN see how
happy he makes Maud. And to a
sister, that's all that matters.

193 MARBLE PIE
Mmm-hmm!

194 PINKIE PIE
Oh Limestone, Marble, thank you. I
don't know what I'd do without you
two! Pie hug! Pie hug!

She brings them in tight. Marble blushes. Limestone growls.

195 LIMESTONE PIE
Okay, okay. You're crushing me to
gravel, Pinkie Pie!

Pinkie lets go.

196 PINKIE PIE
I really owe Mudbriar an apology.
 (growing shock)
And I owe Maud a party! I just hope
I'm not too late!

CUT TO:

SC.17 EXT. PONYVILLE SQUARE - DAY

Mudbriar is wrapping Maud's present: a piece of petrified wood in a bow - and having trouble. Suddenly a hoof comes into FRAME to hold the ribbon in place, so he can tie it. REVEAL -- It's Pinkie.

From her mane, Pinkie pulls out...A BRANCH.

197 PINKIE PIE
I brought you an olive branch to
say sorry. I was really unfair to
you, and I'm ready to listen to
your ideas for Maud's birthday, if
you still want to plan it together.

A long moment as Pinkie worries... maybe he'll say no. Mudbriar puts his nose down near the branch, inspecting it.

198 MUDBRIAR
Technically? This isn't even an
olive branch. It's a *quercus*, most
likely *castaneifolia*.

199 PINKIE PIE
 (losing it)
OH COME ON!!!
 (then, gritted teeth)
Sorry. Keepin' it together...

Mudbriar is startled... But he offers a hoof.

200 MUDBRIAR
And I love a good *quercus*. Friends?

201 PINKIE PIE
Friends. Now, do you have any ideas
for the party?

202 MUDBRIAR
There is one...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC.18 EXT. PONYVILLE TOWN SQUARE - LATER

Starlight, TWILIGHT, RAINBOW DASH, RARITY, FLUTTERSHY, APPLEJACK, SPIKE, and other INCIDENTALS (including Gummy) have gathered in the town square for the party. Suddenly the door to one of the houses opens and...

203 EVERYONE
SURPRISE!

Maud is in the doorway, except... it's not actually Maud. It's a crudely-drawn cutout of her.

Even weirder: nopony seems to mind! The <MUSIC> starts and everyone begins mingling. Enjoying the party, Starlight pauses for a moment and looks off at the hill. She smiles at what she sees and waves as we... PAN UP TO:

SC.19 EXT. HILLTOP NEAR TOWN - SAME

REVEAL: Looking down at the party from a hilltop, Maud stands with Pinkie Pie and Mudbriar. Maud is very pleased.

204 MAUD PIE
This is my favorite party ever.

205 PINKIE PIE
It was all your amazing boyfriend's idea. He said the best present would be me throwing you a surprise party you didn't have to go to.

Maud actually smiles at Mudbriar. He clarifies:

206 MUDBRIAR
Technically? It wasn't a surprise because she could see the pre-party preparations from up here.

207 PINKIE PIE
"Technically?"
(big grin)
...You're right!

She hugs them both.

FADE OUT.