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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

BEST GIFT EVER
Holiday Special

LOCKED SCRIPT

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ACT ONE**SC. 1 - INT. COZY HOME - ONE DAY BEFORE HEARTH'S WARMING EVE**

TITLE FADES UP over a Hearth, festively decorated for the holidays: **"MY LITTLE PONY FRIENDSHIP IS MAGIC: BEST GIFT EVER"**

As the TITLE FADES, we PAN TO A WINDOW - outside it's a beautiful snow-covered winter day in Ponyville.

SC. 2 - EXT. PONYVILLE - MORNING - CONTINUOUS

PONIES prepare for HEARTH'S WARMING EVE. STARLIGHT and TRIxie wave goodbye as they drive off on Trixie's cart. THE YOUNG SIX grin as they decorate the town. GALLUS, SILVERSTREAM, SMOLDER and OCELLUS fly high to drape wreaths and banners, while YONA and SANDBAR place ground-level decorations.

As everypony prepares...

1 ALICE (V.O.)
 Twas a single day left before
 Hearth's Warming Eve.
 Every pony was busy! So much still
 to achieve.
 They hustled and bustled; their
 heads were a-spin
 And it's here that our Holiday
 story begins...

SONG: "ONE MORE DAY":

Happy, ND Ponies (CHOIR) are busy decorating and shopping.

2 ND PONIES
*Hearth's Warming Eve! It's almost
 here
 There's so much left to do!*

RAINBOW DASH zips through town, leaving a rainbow trail in her wake as she looks for last minute gift ideas.

3 RAINBOW DASH
*Still need to shop for all my
 friends,
 But what to get, no clue.*

She zips past FLUTTERSHEY who can't decide what to buy either.

4 FLUTTERSHY
*This one is nice and that's so cute
Although, that's pretty too..*

Behind her a frazzled RARITY levitates bags of fabric and sewing supplies.

5 RARITY
*Why do I make gifts every year?
I doubt I'll make it through!*

6 RAINBOW DASH / FLUTTERSHY / RARITY
*One more day
Before the cheer
One last chance
Before it's here
One more day to make the Holiday
great!
One day to finish shopping
One more day before we celebrate.*

Nearby, MAUD PIE, MUD BRIAR, BIG MACINTOSH, GRANNY SMITH, APPLEBLOOM AND GRAND PEAR, IGNEOUS ROCK, CLOUDY QUARTZ, LIMESTONE PIE and MARBLE PIE shop for decorations (apple-themed, pear-themed and of course rock-themed).

PINKIE PIE bounces over to APPLEJACK, who stands with a few packages.

7 PINKIE PIE
*Hearth's Warming Eve will be here
soon!
A day that we all share.*

8 APPLEJACK
Friends and Family come together

9 PINKIE PIE
Pies, Apples and a Pear!

The family members keep handing more and more supplies from OS to Applejack and Pinkie.

10 APPLEJACK
*But family gath'rins take hard
work!*

11 PINKIE PIE
There's so much to prepare!

12 APPLEJACK/PINKIE PIE
*With all the planning that we've
done
We've got no time to spare.*

A chorus of ND ponies pick up the song--

13 ND PONIES
*One more day
Before the cheer
One last chance
before it's here
One more day to make the Holiday
bright
One day to plan with family
One more day to get everything
right.*

As we zoom through town towards the castle we see that everypony is rushing to try to get things done.

14 ND PONIES (CONT'D)
*Before the fun there's preparation
Shopping, cooking, decoration
We know it will be worth it in the
end
But spreading joy and spreading
cheer
is more work than you think this
time of year!*

SC. 3 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Close on SPIKE carrying a heavy box filled with decorations.

15 SPIKE
*Hearth's Warming Eve is getting
close
We're not prepared, I fear.
Uh Twilight? You should take a
break.*

REVEAL TWILIGHT SPARKLE organizing MANY boxes of decorations/supplies/etc. with her checklist.

16 TWILIGHT
*There's no time Spike! That much is
clear.
I made the list. I checked it twice
There's LOTS to do on here.
And if I can't get all this done?
I'll have to wait and celebrate
next year.*

Twilight flies out of the castle. Spike follows, dragging a ridiculously long scroll behind him. Split screen as we see the MANE 6 rushing to get everything ready for the holiday.

17 MANE 6
One more day
Before the cheer
One last chance
before it's here
One more day to make the Holiday
great!
We really hope Hearth's Warming Eve
is great
Oh please oh please make sure it's
really great!
We're super-stressed we have to
make it great!

<END SONG>

Twilight rushes through town. Spike follows, dragging the scroll, dodging ponies (including Rainbow Dash, Fluttershy, and Rarity).

Spike stops, suddenly, as the scroll goes taut behind him. He tugs on the stuck scroll a few times and turns. Several ponies (including Rainbow Dash, Fluttershy and Rarity) are wrapped up in a tangled mess.

18 RAINBOW DASH
Do we want to know why you're
wrapping up everypony in town?

19 SPIKE
Not wrapping paper. A to-do list.

He points to Twilight, who flies from one cart to the next, levitating random items away like an insane pony.

20 TWILIGHT
Two of these. Three of those...
maybe ten of those. Just in case.

They rush over to Twilight.

21 RARITY
Twilight, darling, are you alright?

22 TWILIGHT
(frantic)
Sure! Just grabbing a few things.
(she holds up a fruitcake)
Do I need this? No. That's silly. I
need EIGHT!

Applejack and Pinkie Pie join, carrying bags of decorations.

23 APPLEJACK
Hey y'all! What's everypony--- oh.

They stare at Twilight in the midst of her 'shopping'.

24 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Traditional holiday meltdown?

The others nod. Applejack walks over to Twilight.

25 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
 (SUPER calm)
Hey Twilight. How's your day?

26 TWILIGHT
 (building speed/stress)
I got WAY behind grading midterms.
And Cadance and Shining Armor are
coming HERE with Flurry Heart for
Hearth's Warming Eve. And I haven't
STARTED decorating and I don't know
what to get ANY of you, and --

Applejack puts a hoof over Twilight's mouth, stopping her.

27 APPLEJACK
Stop. Take a breath.
 (Twilight takes a breath)
Let it out slow.
 (Twilight exhales)
Now, I think I have an idea that
might help. What if we change up
how we give gifts this year, and do
a Hearthwarmin' Helper?

28 FLUTTERSHY
What's a Hearthwarming Helper?

29 APPLEJACK
Whenever the WHOLE Apple Family got
together, there were just so many
of us, it didn't make sense to buy
everypony gifts. So we'd put our
names in a hat...

Pinkie leans in, enraptured.

30 PINKIE PIE
A game of chance! Tell me more.

31 APPLEJACK
Then we'd each pull a name, but
keep it secret!

32 PINKIE PIE
A dash of mystery. Good. Good.

33 APPLEJACK
Instead of buyin' everypony a present, you JUST get one for the pony you picked from the hat!

34 PINKIE PIE
WAIT. So instead of LOTS of presents I only buy ONE of you a present? WHAT KINDA GAME IS THIS?!!

35 RARITY
It WOULD save time.

Spike nods, looking puppy-love eyes at Rarity.

36 SPIKE
And you could get the pony you pick something REALLY nice.

37 RAINBOW DASH
The less shopping the better! IN!

38 FLUTTERSHY
Will that help, Twilight?

Twilight nods, grateful.

39 TWILIGHT
I WAS stressed about shopping.

40 PINKIE PIE
(EXTENDED SIGH) Fine. I will ONLY buy ONE present for my secret Hearthwarming Helper buddy.

41 APPLEJACK
We just need to put everypony's name in this here hat.

Applejack flips her hat off into her hoof.

Twilight uses magic to draw each pony's cutie mark on a scroll (using a dragon wings for Spike). She neatly rips them into matching squares and drops them into Applejack's hat.

42 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Y'all ready? NO peekin!

They nod. Each one pulls from the hat, checks it and puts on "poker" faces. Pinkie rocks back and forth with excitement.

43 PINKIE PIE
SO. Excited. AHHH! TOO EXCITED! I
DON'T WANT TO GIVE ANYTHING AWAY!

Pinkie rushes off.

44 RARITY
When will the gift exchange occur?

45 RAINBOW DASH
How about Twilight's castle
tomorrow night? Hearth's Warming
Eve!

46 APPLEJACK
That's perfect! Pinkie and I can
spend the evening with y'all and
the next morning with our families!

47 TWILIGHT
And thanks to you all, I should be
ready to celebrate by then!

48 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, this is so exciting.

As the ponies head home, Spike rushes after Applejack,
holding the paper slip he drew.

49 SPIKE
Uh. Applejack? Is it against the
rules to trade names? If I had a
better idea for somepony special?
Er, specific?

50 APPLEJACK
If you can figure out who has the
pony you want, and they're okay
tradin', I guess it's fine.

51 SPIKE
Great! So... who do you-

52 APPLEJACK
I don't have Rarity.

53 SPIKE
What? How do you... That's not -

54 APPLEJACK
(knowingly)
Uh-huh.

Applejack walks off <SINGING> to herself.

55 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
*Hearthwarming Helper keeps the
Holiday bright!
A tiny bit more shoppin'
Just one gift before tomorrow
night.*

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**SC. 4 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LATER**

Twilight opens a box of decorations. Spike runs past Twilight towards the door, but then slowly slides back into FRAME.

56 SPIKE
Heyyyy Twilight... whatcha plannin'
to get YOUR secret pony?

57 TWILIGHT
Not sure. I'm getting the castle
ready for my family first. THEN
I'll shop.

58 SPIKE
Maybe something sparkly?
Fashionable?

59 TWILIGHT
No...Those aren't really the kind
of things my pony likes.

60 SPIKE
 (disappointed)
Oh. Well, gotta go! Wish me luck!

61 TWILIGHT
With shopping?

62 SPIKE
Well, yeah! If every pony's only
getting ONE gift, we have a ton of
responsibility to make sure it's
EXTRA SPECIAL good!

63 TWILIGHT
I...Didn't think of it that way.

Spike heads out as that sinks in for Twilight. She looks at her parchment. Balloons: Pinkie Pie's cutie Mark.

64 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
The present I get for Pinkie Pie
could make or break her holiday! I
can't just go shopping and hope to
find something nice. This needs
forethought, planning, research!
 (glances at the boxes)
I'll decorate later. Knowing
Pinkie, she probably already has a
perfect idea what to get her pony.

SC. 5 - INT. PINKIE PIE'S HOUSE - SAME TIME

Pinkie throws herself on her bed dramatically.

65 PINKIE PIE
I have NO IDEA what to get my pony!

Reveal Maud, Limestone, Marble and GUMMY are in the room too.

66 LIMESTONE
There's a PILE of presents right
there. Pick one and you're done.

WHIP PAN to a pile of wrapped gifts. Pinkie rips them open, showing off ridiculously decorated hats, each one a color of the Elements of Harmony.

67 PINKIE PIE
THOSE were for when I was getting
ALL of my friends Matching Harmony
Hearth's Warming Hats! Now it's
JUST Twilight!

She waves the purple hat around.

68 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I can't give ONE pony a matching
present with nothing to match it! I
need something special for ONLY
her!

69 MAUD
I've got it.

70 PINKIE PIE
I don't think Twilight likes rocks
as much as you do Maud.

71 MAUD
I wasn't going to say a rock.
(then)
Just kidding. I was definitely
going to say a rock.

Gummy licks his eye. Pinkie looks at him earnestly.

72 PINKIE PIE
Thanks for the vote of confidence,
Gummy, but this is the biggest
Holiday challenge I've ever faced.
(she brightens)
HEY! THIS IS THE BIGGEST HOLIDAY
CHALLENGE I'VE EVER FACED! HOW
EXCITING IS THAT?

Pinkie paces around the room as she thinks out loud.

73 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Am I up for the challenge? I know
I'm good at gift giving. But am I
the BEST at gift giving?

74 LIMESTONE
Who would say they're the BEST at
gift giving? That's ridiculous.

75 MARBLE
Ummm...

Pinkie grabs Marble and hugs her.

76 PINKIE PIE
MARBLE, YOU'RE A GENIUS! YAKS would
say they were the best at gift
giving! If ANYPONY knows what to
do, it's them. I gotta go to
Yakyakistan! Thanks, these Pie
sister talks are the BEST.

She grabs her scarf and rushes out the door.

SC. 6 - EXT. PONYVILLE STREETS - CONTINUOUS

Pinkie rushes past Spike. He waves her down.

77 SPIKE
Pinkie!

She stops and reverses back to where Spike is.

78 PINKIE PIE
Talk fast. No time. Got a quest.

Spike shuffles his foot and slowly talks around what he
wants. Pinkie gets more anxious until she LITERALLY vibrates.

79 SPIKE
Well... I was kinda wondering who
you had for your Hearthwarming
Helper cuz... I was thinking...

80 PINKIE PIE
I have Twilight shhh don't tell
anypony especially Twilight OK bye!

Spike is about to say something when Pinkie zips off, sending
him spinning into Rarity.

81 RARITY
Oh! How's your shopping going,
Spike?

82 SPIKE
Uh. Fine.

Rarity leans in to whisper--

83 RARITY
Which pony did you get?

84 SPIKE
I...Can't remember?

85 RARITY
Well, I have Applejack. And she's
absolutely going to LOVE her
present. There's a designer in
Manhattan, FEDORA FELT, who
creates the most marvelous hats. I
asked for a new take on Western
chic that would be the envy of
every farmpony in Equestria. It
arrives tomorrow!

86 SPIKE
That's a great gift, Rarity. I hope
I can find something for my pony as
special as you are. SHE is. Heh.

Spike runs off, leaving a confused Rarity.

PAN ACROSS the street where Fluttershy tries to get shopping
done with Rainbow Dash trailing after her.

87 RAINBOW DASH
Ok, what about your favorite food?

88 FLUTTERSHY
Oh I couldn't pick ONE. What if it
hurt the other foods' feelings?

89 RAINBOW DASH
Riiiiight. But there's gotta be
something you really really like.

90 FLUTTERSHY
I really really like...Everything!
Why do you ask?

Rainbow Dash covers, super-awkwardly.

91 RAINBOW DASH
Just...Getting gift ideas. For my
pony. Who isn't you. So... Is there
anything you DON'T like?

92 FLUTTERSHY
Not liking things.

Rainbow Dash face-hooves and flies off in <GROWLING>
frustration. Fluttershy calls cheerfully after her--

93 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
I hope that helped!

Fluttershy turns to looks in the window of a JEWELRY store.
Suddenly, Spike pops up next to her.

94 SPIKE
Hey Fluttershy. Thinking of getting
that for your Hearthwarming Helper?

95 FLUTTERSHY
Mmm-hmm. She loves shiny things.

Spike grins, he may have found his pony. He leans against the
window dramatically - woe is he.

96 SPIKE
I wish I knew what MY secret pony
wanted. She's SO hard to shop for.

97 FLUTTERSHY
Oh no. Maybe I could help? Unless
you don't want to tell me who your-

98 SPIKE
Rainbow Dash.

99 FLUTTERSHY
Oh! I was JUST talking to Rainbow
Dash about things we both like!

100 SPIKE
Great idea! We SHOULD trade ponies!

101 FLUTTERSHY
I-- Wait. Trade?

102 SPIKE
Applejack said it's not against the
rules. And you know what Rainbow
Dash likes, so it's perfect!

He trades names with Fluttershy and looks at his.

103 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Rarity? What. A. Surprise! Thanks!

Spike runs off. Applejack comes rushing over to Fluttershy.

104 APPLEJACK
There you are. I need your help!

105 FLUTTERSHEY
Do you want to trade names too?

106 APPLEJACK
What? No. I just need help
figurin' out what to get Spike.

Fluttershy sighs in relief and we CUT TO--

SC. 7 - EXT. PONYVILLE SHOP - SOON AFTER

Rainbow Dash flies out the door, candle in hoof.

107 RAINBOW DASH
Candle. Great. Whatever. Fluttershy
shopping DONE.

Eyes and a mouth appear on the candle and glare at her.

108 DISCORD AS CANDLE
You can't HONESTLY be serious?

109 RAINBOW DASH
AHHHHHH! GHOST CANDLE! <ALT.
Poltercandle!>

Rainbow Dash hurls the candle. When it lands, it grows arms and legs and brushes itself off.

110 DISCORD AS CANDLE
A CANDLE is what you buy when you
have no idea what to get somepony.

Rainbow Dash rolls her eyes. She knows who this is.

111 RAINBOW DASH
What do you want, Discord?

The candle <POPS> into the form of the DRACONEQUIS.

112 DISCORD
Fluttershy told me about this
Hearth-Whatever-it's-called. I may
not be invited, but I wanted to
make sure she gets a quality gift.

113 RAINBOW DASH
I TRIED asking her what she likes,
but she likes EVERYthing.

114 DISCORD
She SAYS that. But her REAL friends
know what she ACTUALLY likes.

115 RAINBOW DASH
"Real friends"?! I've known her a
lot longer than you have.

116 DISCORD
Then you surely know lit candles
around adorably flammable animals
make her nervous. Don't you?

117 RAINBOW DASH
 (grits her teeth)
Fine. I'll get her something else.

She flies away. Discord floats after her. A STEERING WHEEL
poofs into being in front of him.

118 DISCORD
Perhaps I'll tag along. To steer
you in the right direction.

Discord hauls on the wheel, and with a <SCREECH> the duo
makes a hard RIGHT mid-air.

SC. 8 -INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Spike is on cloud nine, practically strutting.

119 SPIKE
I can't wait to give Rarity her
gift. It'll be just as special,
beautiful and amazing as she is!
 (dreamy)
Just imagine when she opens it, and
sees-- uh-- Sees--
 (freezes, realizing)
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO GET HER!

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**SC. 9 - EXT. RAINBOW FALLS - THE NEXT DAY**

Applejack and Fluttershy make their way through Rainbow Falls. All of the booths are decked out for the Holidays.

120 FLUTTERSHY
I come to the Rainbow Falls
Hearth's Warming Craft Fair every
year. They have perfect presents
for anypony!

121 APPLEJACK
Hopefully anyDRAGON too. Wanna
split up? Meet back here in a bit?

Fluttershy nods. As Applejack goes off, Fluttershy walks along the booths. She passes rainbow knick-knacks, a Daring Do booth, and a Wonderbolts booth (with an awesome poster OF Rainbow Dash). A few PONY SHOPPERS rush past her, headed OS. One of them is dressed in an oversized Holiday sweater and hat (yet somehow FLAM-iliar), and he seems to be herding the other shoppers in one direction--

122 FLAM
Hurry up! There's only a few left!

Curious, Fluttershy follows the crowd to a colorful booth MUCH larger (and ostentatious) than the rest.

A strange (yet somehow FLIM-iliar) pony in full Dickensian Holiday garb (including a fake moustache, etc. to mask his face) stands onstage above the assembled shoppers.

123 FLIM
Fillies and gentlecolts! We want
you ALL to have the best holiday
your bits can buy! But there are
only a limited number left!

Fluttershy turns to the Pony next to her (Flam-in-disguise).

124 FLUTTERSHY
Limited number of what?

125 FLAM (DISGUISE)
You don't know about HOLLY THE
HEARTHWARMER?!

126 FLUTTERSHY
No! What's that?

The crowd around Fluttershy <GASPS>. The pony on stage focuses his attention on her.

127 FLIM
YOU seem like somepony looking for
a gift for a very special friend!

128 FLUTTERSHY
I AM!

129 FLAM
A friend who wouldn't want to miss
out on the MUST HAVE GIFT everypony
is talking about?

130 FLUTTERSHY
She certainly wouldn't want to miss
out on that!

131 FLIM
A truly AWESOME friend who deserves
something 20% cooler than any other
gift out there?

132 FLUTTERSHY
That sounds JUST like her!

133 FLIM
Look no further. THIS IS IT!

Fluttershy gets wrapped up in the excitement of the moment!

134 FLUTTERSHY
How much does it cost?!

135 FLIM
 (grinning)
How much do you have?

SC. 10 - EXT. YAKYAKISTAN - DAY

PRINCE RUTHERFORD watches a group of yaks pile furniture in the center of the village. One yak places a chair on top.

136 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
YOJAN! IS THAT GOOD ANGLE FOR
OPTIMAL SMASHING?!

The other yaks stare at Yojan. He bows his head in shame. A pair of pink hooves covers Rutherford's eyes.

137 PINKIE PIE
Guessssssssss who!

138 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yojan!

139 PINKIE PIE
No, silly!

140 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yngvild! Tormund! Grunhorn!

141 PINKIE PIE
Nopety nope and NYET! It's me!!!!

Pinkie uncovers Rutherford's eyes.

142 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Prince Rutherford knew it pink pony
all along. Yaks BEST at guessing!

143 PINKIE PIE
Yaks best at everything! That's why
I'm here! Sorry to interrupt
Snilldar Fest, but I need help.
Can you tell me where to find
(Does yak impersonation)
BEST GIFT EVER?

Prince Rutherford looks around nervously. Whispers close--

144 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Not here. Follow this way.

Prince Rutherford attempts to sneak into a nearby hut but
<SMASHES> and <BREAKS> several things on the way. Pinkie
follows behind, <SMASHING AND BREAKING> the same things.

SC. 11 - INT. YAK HUT - CONTINUOUS

Prince Rutherford shuts the windows and bars the door.

145 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Prince Rutherford about to tell
honorary yak friend something VERY
TOP SECRET.

146 PINKIE PIE
Honorary yak friend listening!

147 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yaks best at all things EXCEPT one.
Yaks not best at giving gifts.

Pinkie's jaw literally hits the floor. She is shocked.

148 PINKIE PIE
Whaaaaaaaaaaaaat?

149 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
I know it hard to believe.

150 PINKIE PIE
How am I gonna figure out how to
get Twilight the best Hearth's
Warming gift EVER?

151 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
No worry, honorary yak. Prince
Rutherford keep secret map in
perfectly organized files.

He rummages through a disorganized pile of papers, hay and
garbage and pulls out a map.

152 PRINCE RUTHERFORD (CONT'D)
Best gift givers up northern pass,
where sky shimmers and glows.
There, secret gift giver grove.
Only Yak princes and pink honorary
yak know.

Pinkie mimes zipping her lips. Through closed ones:

153 PINKIE PIE
My lips are sealed!

PINKIE busts open the door and at the top of her lungs:

154 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
TIME FOR MY TOP SECRET QUEST TO THE
GIFT GIVERS!

SC. 12 - INT. PONYVILLE POST OFFICE - SOON AFTER

Rarity, at the front of a line of waiting ponies, rings the
bell for service. Muffins pops her head up.

155 MUFFINS
Hi Rarity! How can I help you?

156 RARITY
I expected a package today, and I
was wondering where it might be.

157 MUFFINS
Okaaaay. Let's check. Name?

158 RARITY
... Rarity?

Muffins obviously flips through a bunch of papers.

159 MUFFINS
AH! Here we go. Your package was delivered to Sweet Apple Acres.

160 RARITY
WHAT?! It was supposed to be delivered to Rarity's Boutique!

161 MUFFINS
But the package was for Applejack! She's at Sweet Apple Acres.

162 RARITY
Yes, it's for Applejack, but I will be delivering it.

163 MUFFINS
Why? That's my job.

164 RARITY
It's a GIFT FOR Applejack FROM me.

165 MUFFINS
OH NO! What if she opens it? It shouldn't go to Sweet Apple Acres!
(checks papers)
OH! Wait. It went to Sweet Acorn Orchard instead. THAT'S a relief!

166 RARITY
Why is that a relief?

167 MUFFINS
Because Applejack's not IN Sweet Acorn Orchard. You want me to get the package and deliver it to her?

168 RARITY
NO!!! <ahem> May I have the address for Sweet Acorn Orchard? I think I'll just collect the package myself.

169 MUFFINS
You sure? I'm happy to do it.

170 RARITY
You have helped so much already.

Muffins beams and hands over the address. Rarity rushes out.

After hearing the exchange, the lined up ponies quickly shift from Muffins' line to the even-longer line next to hers.

Muffins beams cluelessly.

171 MUFFINS
Guess I'm getting off early today!

SC. 13 - INT/EXT. VARIOUS PONYVILLE SHOPS - SAME DAY

Spike walks into Ponyville town square and looks around at all the shops. He wears a serious expression.

172 SPIKE
Shopping for Rarity. NO problem.
She likes lots of stuff. I just
need something extra special.

SMASH CUT TO:

173 PONY VENDOR
Brand new top of the line sewing
equipment?

SMASH CUT TO:

174 PONY VENDOR #2
A priceless rhinestone necklace?

SMASH CUT TO:

175 PONY VENDOR #3
A sculpture of Rarity made from
smaller sculptures of Rarity?

Several other Rarity-centric (and over the top) gifts flash by rapidly, ending on a dazed and confused Spike.

176 SPIKE
Shopping for Rarity. Slight
problem. She likes lots of stuff.
But nothing is special enough!

Spike collapses in the center of town. An annoyed Rainbow Dash and Discord fly over Spike. Dash heads towards a shop.

177 DISCORD
(under his breath)
Oh goodness, no.

She grits her teeth and flies towards the Ponyville Day Spa.

178 DISCORD (CONT'D)
(coughing)
Even worse.

179 RAINBOW DASH
C'mon, Fluttershy would LOVE a spa
day!

180 DISCORD
LOVE the stress of deciding which
treatment to get? LOVE worrying
she's not relaxing enough? Relaxing
too much?! And what about all those
sweet animals she left all alone?
So much to worry about and all
because of YOU!

181 RAINBOW DASH
She's FLUTTERSHY! Everything makes
her worry!

182 DISCORD
NOW you sound like somepony who
knows her!

183 RAINBOW DASH
If you're SUCH an expert on
Fluttershy what did YOU get her?

184 DISCORD
You honestly expect me to tell you
what I got Fluttershy so you can
one up me? I have half a mind to
stop helping you entirely!

Discord's head splits in two (ungrossly) and he points to one
half of it.

185 RAINBOW DASH
GOOD! Please stop helping me! I'm
begging you!

186 DISCORD
<sigh> I suppose I COULD tell you
what my back-up present was.

Rainbow Dash rolls her eyes - she's SO over this.

187 RAINBOW DASH
Great. Still helping...

188 DISCORD
It would have made a lovely
addition to her animal sanctuary.
(MORE)

DISCORD (CONT'D)

But you'd have to be the fastest pony in Equestria to even have a CHANCE of catching the creature.

THIS gets Rainbow Dash's attention.

189 RAINBOW DASH
You're TALKING to the fastest pony in Equestria! If there's some fast animal out there Fluttershy would love, I'M the one who can get it.

190 DISCORD
(overly dramatic)
Oh, I just don't know....

191 RAINBOW DASH
I'm calling it! DIBS!

192 DISCORD
Well, if you INSIST...

He snaps his fingers and they disappear.

SC. 14 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE/LIBRARY - SAME DAY

Towers of books surround a chalkboard covered in "Holiday Equations" and a bulletin board with string connecting photos of Pinkie to photos of gifts. A book tower levitates out of the way as Twilight walks beneath it towards the chalkboard.

193 TWILIGHT
The ideal gift for Pinkie Pie needs to be A) Unique, B) Specific to her personality and C) Food-based.

Twilight draws a Venn Diagram on the board illustrating her point (with a cute picture of a happy Pinkie in the middle). Twilight flips through several books frantically.

194 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
What is a unique food? Cupcakes?
No. Cookies? No. Pies? Pastries?
Pudding? WAIT! PUDDING!

Twilight flies up and pulls a book off a high shelf.

195 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
After defeating the Windigos, the Earth Pony, Pegasi and Unicorns nations prepared the FIRST Hearth's Warming meal together.
(MORE)

TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

Chancellor Puddinghead made a
PUDDING SO delicious, legends were
written about it!

Twilight draws fireworks and stars around the Venn diagram.

196 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

This is it! Unique. TOTALLY Pinkie!
The most incredible dessert ever!

She looks back at the book and flips through it.

197 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

But where's the recipe?!

SC. 15 - EXT. RAINBOW FALLS - LATE AFTERNOON

Applejack searches the crowd. She rushes over to Fluttershy.

198 APPLEJACK

I've narrowed it down to fire
dancin' sticks or a Power Ponies
comic. UN-enchanted. I think.

Fluttershy turns, revealing HOLLY THE HEARTHWARMER DOLL.

199 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

<FRIGHTENED SCREAM> WHAT IS THAT?!

The doll is creepy, poorly made - bad sewing, cross-eyed and
unsymmetrically painted face...And already falling apart!

200 FLUTTERSHY

Holly the Hearthwarmer Doll. Isn't
she sweet?

Fluttershy squeezes the doll - it speaks in FLIM'S VOICE.

201 FLIM (V.O.)

I LOVE being an expensive toy!

202 APPLEJACK

Why'd you think THAT was a good
gift for Rainbow Dash?

203 FLUTTERSHY

It's the MUST HAVE gift of the
season! And in short supply!

Applejack looks around. Several ponies carry the ugly doll.

204 APPLEJACK
Short supply huh? How much did you
pay for that?

205 FLUTTERSHY
 (Happy)
All my bits.
 (Oh no!)
All my bits! Um. Can I borrow some
for the train ride home?

206 APPLEJACK
Something about this here doll
seems fishy, and I ain't just
talking about the smell of that
plastic. Where'd you get it?

SC. 16 - EXT. FLIM & FLAM'S BOOTH - MOMENTS LATER

A line of ponies wait at the closed booth. Applejack and Fluttershy walk around back. The Dickensian vendor pony removes his "disguise," revealing FLIM. FLAM enters, wheeling a cart with several boxes of Holly the Hearthwarmer dolls.

207 APPLEJACK
 (sotto)
Flim and Flam! What are those
Hearth's Warmin' Hooligans up to
NOW?!

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR**SC. 17 - EXT. SWEET ACORN ORCHARDS - THE NEXT MORNING**

Rarity, in full winter regalia, walks up a barren path to Sweet Acorn Orchard. It's outside of Ponyville, rural, with no other homes around. A shabby rusty gate creaks in the wind.

208 RARITY
How... rustic.

Past the creaky gate, a dirt path leads to a ramshackle home adorned with meager decorations. Behind it, a run-down barn stands next to a few scraggly acorn trees.

Rarity <KNOCKS>. Two ponies, OAK NUT and BUTTERNUT, open the door, unsure of what to make of their well-dressed guest.

209 RARITY (CONT'D)
Is this Sweet Acorn Orchard?

210 BUTTERNUT
It is. But we've never had nopony like you visit before...

211 RARITY
Rarity. A pleasure. I'm actually here about a package that was recently delivered...

212 OAK NUT
That was from YOU?!

213 RARITY
(relieved)
So it DID arrive. If I could just-

Butternut hugs Rarity.

214 BUTTERNUT
We don't know how to thank you.

215 RARITY
(confused)
Thank me?

They usher her in. The interior is as meager as the exterior. Butter Nut sits Rarity down and pours some tea.

216 OAK NUT
I was just saying to Butternut I wished we knew who our Hearth's Warming Miracle was.

217 BUTTERNUT
Oak Nut and I couldn't believe it when we opened it. Pistachio said right away whoever sent it just "got him".

218 OAK NUT
Says when he put it on, he could feel his destiny!

219 RARITY
As an acorn farmer?

220 PISTACHIO (O.S.)
A FARMER?! Filly, please. <<ALT. Surely you jest.>>

PISTACHIO enters sporting Rarity's hat. He is short, sassy and utterly fabulous.

221 PISTACHIO (CONT'D)
This is a Fedora Felt ORIGINAL. Look at this bold stitching! These daring textures! It's a whole new take on Western chic! There's no way I would wear it in the grove.

He hugs the hat reverently. His parents beam proudly at him.

222 BUTTERNUT
We don't know where he got his fashion sense.

223 OAK NUT
Far as we know, a hat's a hat.

224 PISTACHIO
Except when it's art.

225 BUTTERNUT
Thank you, Rarity.

Pistachio whips his head around to gape at Rarity.

226 PISTACHIO
Rarity? THE Rarity?

Rarity nods her head.

227 PISTACHIO (CONT'D)
You are LEGEND-MARE-Y! You have to
stay for lunch. I won't take no for
an answer!

They look at Rarity expectantly. She's at a loss but rallies.

228 RARITY
I... would be delighted?

SC. 18 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LATER

Twilight wearily walks out of the library with a large book. Her mane is a mess and she has bags under her eyes. Boxes of decorations are still scattered everywhere.

229 TWILIGHT
The recipe for Chancellor
Puddinghead's MAGICAL pudding was
filed under magical SPELLS not
recipes. OBVIOUSLY. Only took four
hours to figure that out.

She flips through the book.

230 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Let's see. Nutmeg, Sugarplums,
Gingerbread, Candy Canes. Warning:
To avoid untold culinary
devastation each ingredient must be
measured with exact care.
 (she smiles)
Oh, book. Have you met me?

A <KNOCK> at the castle door stops her. She opens the door to find PRINCESS CADANCE, SHINING ARMOR and FLURRY HEART.

231 SHINING ARMOR & CADANCE/FLURRY HEART
HAPPY HEARTH'S WARMING! / <bubbles>

Shining Armor hugs his sister.

232 TWILIGHT
But... you're early! Your scroll
said you were coming tomorrow.

233 CADANCE
The scroll we sent yesterday?

234 TWILIGHT
Yesterday! Right. Welcome!

Shining Armor looks over Twilight's shoulder. Boxes of Hearth's Warming decorations are still scattered about.

235 SHINING ARMOR
Uh-oh.

236 CADANCE
Uh-oh?

Shining Armor studies Twilight, puts a hoof to her forehead as though checking a fever. She bats his hoof away, annoyed.

237 TWILIGHT
(annoyed)
What are you doing?

238 SHINING ARMOR
Decorations not up, frazzled mane, determined look. I've seen this before. What are you obsessing about this time Twily?

239 TWILIGHT
NOTHING!

240 SHINING ARMOR
So decorations aren't up because?

241 TWILIGHT
I thought... It would be more fun if we all decorated it together!

242 CADANCE
That sounds wonderful. We can start decorating right--

243 TWILIGHT
AFTER I finish one QUICK errand. Just a few ingredients. Nothing to obsess about here! Make yourselves at home. Be RIGHT back! Promise.

She TELEPORTS away - <POOF>!

244 CADANCE
She's definitely freaking out about something.

245 SHINING ARMOR
OH yeah.

SC. 19 - EXT. ANCIENT GIFT GIVER'S GROVE - LATER THAT DAY

The NORTHERN LIGHTS shimmer above. Enchanted trees surround a tiny cottage, decorated for every Equestria holiday ever. Pinkie climbs over a cliff, and bounces to the cottage. She's about to knock when the door flies open. An ancient looking pony with thick spectacles (AURORA) studies Pinkie Pie.

246 AURORA
By Blitzen's Beard! It took ya long
enough!

She pulls Pinkie inside the cottage.

SC. 20 - INT. REINDEER COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Holiday cards are strung up on the walls. Piles of wrapping paper, presents and open boxes filled with all kinds of gifts are stacked everywhere. It's Holiday Hoarders.

247 PINKIE PIE
Are you sure you were expecting me?
My name is-

248 AURORA
Pinkie Pie, I know. 'Cuz I know
everything.

An young adorable reindeer (ALICE) bounces over to them laughing.

249 ALICE
Oh, don't be silly! You only know
what's already happened. But you
don't know what she's about to ask!

250 PINKIE PIE/ALICE
What AM I about to ask?

Pinkie double takes.

251 PINKIE PIE/ALICE (CONT'D)
HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS GONNA SAY
THAT?

A reindeer Pinkie's age (BORI) enters, rolling her eyes.

252 BORI
Will you two stop showing off? She
doesn't have all Hearth's Warming!

253 PINKIE PIE
Who ARE you reindeer?

They all bow their heads as they introduce themselves.

254 AURORA
Aurora.

255 BORI
Bori!

256 ALICE
Alice.

257 AURORA
The gift givers of the Grove.

Pinkie claps her hooves in excitement.

258 PINKIE PIE
And you can help me get Twilight
the best gift ever?

Bori and Alice nod in unison. Aurora looks confused.

259 AURORA
What about those matching hats?
They were so cute!

260 PINKIE PIE
That was--

261 BORI
BEFORE she had to get just ONE gift
for Twilight. Try to keep up
Aurora.

262 ALICE
I'm gonna get that box Pinkie is
gonna say she likes.

Alice hobbles off. Bori sees that Pinkie looks confused.

263 BORI
Aurora remembers gifts that have
already happened. Alice knows the
gifts that are GOING to happen.
I... just stay in the moment and
keep the two of them in line.
 (to the reindeers)
Speaking of. I believe we have a
request for a gift?

The reindeer sift through stacks of odds and ends on a table,
some wrapped as presents, some not.

264 AURORA
The best gift is more precious than
gold - but it cannot be sold.

265 BORI
When it breaks it's not ended, for
quickly it's mended.

266 ALICE
It can never be bought, yet is
easily sought. Ah! Here we go.

They spread their hooves - tada! There's a small box on the
table. Pinkie leans toward it.

267 PINKIE PIE
Oooo. I like that box!

268 ALICE
 (to Bori)
Told you!

Pinkie opens the box and stares inside in awe.

269 PINKIE PIE
The perfect gift. Wow.
 (then)
I don't get it.

270 ALICE
You will.

SC. 21 - INT. RAINBOW FALLS WAREHOUSE - LATER

Applejack and Fluttershy approach Flim and Flam. Applejack
clears her throat. Flim pulls his disguise back on - it ends
up upside-down, so his moustache looks like a big eyebrow.

271 FLIM
We said NO REFUNDS! Oh. You.

272 APPLEJACK
What are y'all doin' with these
dolls and that ridiculous get up?
Don't you have a resort to run?

273 FLIM
It's off-season. Besides, we're
planning an expansion.

274 FLAM
Expansions cost bits.

They unveil a MODEL MOCKUP. A huge (and unsafe looking) water slide running down a swirl of frozen yogurt.

275 FLIM & FLAM
Flim and Flam's Fro Yo Flume Ride!

276 FLUTTERSHY
That sounds fun!

277 APPLEJACK
It ain't no excuse for sellin'
cheap dolls to ponies.

Flim and Flam flank Fluttershy - the mark. Gently:

278 FLIM
We're giving ponies what they want!

279 FLAM
Shopping for the perfect gift is
stressful.

280 FLUTTERSHY
(nods) That's true.

281 FLIM
You want to get something that
really stands out.

282 FLUTTERSHY
I do.

283 FLAM
And when you tell your friend you
got them the HOTTEST gift in
Rainbow Falls what'll they say?

284 FLUTTERSHY
Woo hoo?

Applejack rolls her eyes and squeezes the doll- Flim's voice:

285 FLIM (V.O.)
The more you spend, the more your
friend knows you love them!

286 FLUTTERSHY
Oh. Right. They really ARE good at
selling things.

287 FLIM
You may not like it.

288 FLAM
But technically, we aren't doing
anything wrong.

289 FLIM
Ponies are desperate for the right
gift.

290 FLAM
And who are YOU to tell them this
isn't it?

291 FLIM
If ponies get tired of Holly after
a few days...

Holly's arm falls off.

292 FLAM (CONT'D)
...Or she falls apart, who REALLY
got hurt?

293 FLIM AND FLAM
NOPONY!

They put their disguises on and head back to the stage.
Fluttershy looks at the dismembered Holly, upset.

294 FLUTTERSHY
Of COURSE Rainbow Dash wouldn't
want this. I'm so mad I could just--

She VERY gently kicks a rock on the ground. It barely budes.

295 APPLEJACK
Convincin' ponies to buy that doll
ain't in the holiday spirit.

296 FLUTTERSHY
But Flim and Flam have a point. We
can't TELL ponies what to buy.

Applejack considers that and grins. She's got an idea.

297 APPLEJACK
But maybe we can SHOW 'em!

OFF Fluttershy's confused expression...

SC. 22 - EXT. SNOWY MOUNTAIN - AFTERNOON

Rainbow Dash stealthily and silently follows a trail through
a snowy ravine. Discord loudly crashes through behind her.

298 RAINBOW DASH
No wonder you couldn't find
anything out here. Could you TRY to
make less noise?!

Discord snaps his fingers. He is dressed as SNAKE EYES,
Rainbow Dash as STORM SHADOW.

299 DISCORD
We'll move silently. Blend into the
shadows. The winterchilla will
never hear us coming.

300 RAINBOW DASH
Winter...chilla?

301 DISCORD
Small, adorable, fuzzy and FAST.
But they're SO rare, there's NO
telling where they might-- oh,
there's one right there.

He points. Sure enough it is the CUTEST WINTER CREATURE YOU
HAVE EVER SEEN IN YOUR ENTIRE LIFE.

302 DISCORD (CONT'D)
Now, if you're going to get it, I
think the FIRST move is to--

Rainbow Dash zips away in a rainbow blur and returns with the
winterchilla in hoof. It nuzzles next to her. <CUTE NOISES>.

303 RAINBOW DASH
Be super-fast?

SC. 23 - INT. SPIKE'S ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Spike sits in a pile of arts & crafts. Glitter, paste,
scissors, cardboard. It's a mess. He manically glues ribbon
to a pretty-hideous PARASOL he's constructing.

304 SPIKE
MAKING a gift is way more personal
than buying it. Rarity loves things
that take time and effort.

WHIP PAN over to a graveyard of other homemade gifts Spike
has already tried to make, including a hand (er, claw) made
guitar.

305 SPIKE (CONT'D)
I'm sure THIS one will be the one
that works. (YAWN) I just...
need... to stay focused and...

He falls asleep against his creation, collapsing it.

SC. 24 - EXT. RAINBOW FALLS - LATE AFTERNOON

Flim passes a Holly the Hearthwarmer to a grateful pony as Flam watches. A huge crowd waits their turn.

306 FLIM
Have a wonderful holiday and
remember, no refunds! NEXT?

It's Applejack and Fluttershy. Flam glares at them. (Note: AJ and FS speak their lines loud so the whole crowd can hear).

307 FLAM
What are you doing here?

308 APPLEJACK
Same as everypony else! I want a
Hearthwarmer! In fact, I want
THREE!

309 FLIM
Seriously?

310 APPLEJACK
After I saw my friend here with
hers I KNEW I had to buy some!

The crowd nods in agreement. Flim and Flam don't know what she's up to, but they hand her three dolls.

311 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
For my Granny, my brother and my
little sister!

312 FLIM
Yeah, great story. NEXT!

Applejack turns, but Fluttershy stops her (she speaks all of her lines as if she's reading from a script).

313 FLUTTERSHY
But Applejack. Your Granny, your
brother and your sister. They're
all so different!

Applejack stops, concerned.

314 APPLEJACK
That's RIGHT Fluttershy. They ARE
different.

315 FLUTTERSHY
How can the SAME doll be the right
gift for ALL of them?

The crowd starts to <MURMUR>. Flim & Flam look uncomfortable.

316 APPLEJACK
But Fluttershy. This is the MUST
HAVE gift of the season.

317 FLUTTERSHY
But just because it's must have for
one pony doesn't mean it's must
have for EVERYPONY. Does it?

318 APPLEJACK
That's TRUE!

A few ponies get out of line and walk away.

319 FLIM
Now hang on a moment...

320 APPLEJACK
I guess I need to put more thought
into gettin' the right gift for
each pony. Can I return these?

321 FLIM AND FLAM
NO REFUNDS!

She turns to the next pony in line.

322 APPLEJACK
Oh. Uh...You want 'em? I'm gonna go
pick out gifts that are just as
special as the ponies they're for.

The pony looks at the Dolls and shakes his head.

323 PONY SHOPPER
I... think I'm going to go do some
more shopping too.

The <GRUMBLING CROWD> (just frustrated murmurs) walks away
and heads off to the other booths.

324 FLIM
Wait! Come back!

325 FLAM
We'll give you a great deal!

326 FLIM AND FLAM
BUY ONE GET ONE FREE?!?!?!?

Applejack smiles at Fluttershy.

327 APPLEJACK
Ah. The sweet sounds of the season.

END ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE**SC. 25 - EXT. SWEET ACORN ORCHARD - LATE AFTERNOON**

Rarity stands on the porch with the family.

328 BUTTERNUT
It's a shame you gotta leave.

329 RARITY
You've been so generous, but I must
get home for a previous engagement.
I'll be keeping an eye on you,
Pistachio. I've a feeling you've
got quite the future in fashion!

Pistachio beams. Rarity leaves, but Pistachio runs after her.

330 PISTACHIO
RARITY! I love my parents, but they
don't understand that we just had
lunch with one of the most famous
ponies in Equestria.

331 RARITY
I don't know about "most famous"...

332 PISTACHIO
Modesty does NOT look good on you,
filly. <<ALT. Please.>>
(it's hard but...)
I KNOW you didn't send a Fedora
Felt original to some nopony you've
never met from nowhere Equestria.
I'm sure this is ACTUALLY for
somepony special so if you want it
back, like, I get it.

Pistachio takes off the hat and holds it out to her. Rarity
takes it with her magic.

333 RARITY
The hat is indeed for somepony very
special. And I couldn't bear to see
him part with it.

Rarity uses her magic to lower the hat onto Pistachio's head.
He adjusts it, at a cool, rakish angle.

334 PISTACHIO
Oh thank Celestia, because I did
NOT want to give this up.

Rarity puts a hoof under his chin.

335 RARITY
But if I hear you call yourself a
nopony again you shan't be my guest
for fashion week in Manehattan.

Pistachio is speechless. Rarity hugs him. OVER HIS SHOULDER
we see her sotto wince--

336 RARITY (CONT'D)
(sotto)
Sorry, Applejack...

SC. 26 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - LATE AFTERNOON

Applejack and Fluttershy look out the window. Flim and Flam
wait with BOXES of dolls. Applejack waves. They glare.

337 APPLEJACK
Puttin' those two in their place
makes me all warm and fuzzy inside.

338 FLUTTERSHY
Me too. But we never got gifts for
Spike or Rainbow Dash. And it's
already Hearth's Warming Eve.

Applejack holds up the four Holly the Hearthwarmers they
bought.

339 APPLEJACK
It probably ain't what they're
expectin', but we still got these.
(doing her best
Fluttershy)
Yay?

An eye on one of the dolls pops off. Fluttershy sadly shakes
her head. These are NOT 'yay' worthy.

SC. 27 - INT. TWILIGHT'S KITCHEN - SAME AFTERNOON

Twilight carefully mixes ingredients into a large cauldron.
Cadance and Shining Armor enter with Flurry Heart.

340 CADANCE
Flurry LOVED sledding!

341 SHINING ARMOR
Too bad her AUNT wasn't there...

Twilight holds a hoof up as she drops a candy cane into the pot, creating a <POOF> of glitter. Flurry Heart's eyes widen with curiosity.

342 TWILIGHT
There! Ingredients measured
EXACTLY! Just as directed. Now,
what were you saying?

343 SHINING ARMOR
Hi! Remember us? We came all the
way from the Crystal Empire for
some quality family time?

Flurry Heart reaches for the cauldron but it's too far away.

344 TWILIGHT
Okay. I DID get a little stressed
about Hearth's Warming this year.

345 SHINING ARMOR
What?! You? No!

346 TWILIGHT
So my friends decided we should do
a Hearthwarming Helper, and give
ONE pony a present to save time.

Cadance <GIGGLES>. Shining Armor BUSTS out <LAUGHING>.

347 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
What?

348 SHINING ARMOR
Let me guess. You got super worried
about making sure the present was
perfect and went all Twily-nanas
<<ALT. Twilight Stressball>>,
didn't you?

349 TWILIGHT
I wasn't Twily-nanas! <<ALT.
Twilight Stressball!>>

Shining Armor arches an eyebrow.

350 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Okay FINE. A little Twily-nanas.
<<ALT. Stressball.>>

BEHIND THEM, UNSEEN: Flurry Heart levitates random ingredients and drops them into the cauldron for more magical <POOFS>. She <CLAPS> her hooves.

351 CADANCE
Twilight, we're family. We know you
get overwhelmed. You should have
told us! We could've helped!

352 TWILIGHT
The good news is, Pinkie's present
is almost done! Then it's just
friends and family and a calm quiet
Hearth's Warming Eve!

None of them notice the cauldron <BUBBLING> dangerously.

SC. 28 - EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash (with the winterchilla) heads for the castle.

353 DISCORD
Enjoy your exclusive pony-only
holiday gathering! I'll just be
home... by the hearth... spending
quality time with... myself.

Discord splits in two. The Discords hold hands and sadly walk
away. Rainbow Dash looks at the winterchilla thoughtfully:

354 RAINBOW DASH
I wouldn't have this little fella
without you so...If you wanna join,
Fluttershy would love having you.
And I wouldn't totally hate it.

Discord, now dressed as Uncle Eddie from Christmas Vacation
<<ALT. dressed as nightgown post-revelation Scrooge>>, hugs
Rainbow Dash.

355 DISCORD
In THAT case... look! Sunset! It's
officially Hearth's Warming Eve!

As the last rays of the sun disappear, the winterchilla leaps
out of Rainbow Dash's hooves and runs around in circles.

356 RAINBOW DASH
What is it doing!?

Suddenly it <ROARS>. Claws and fangs appear as it TRANSFORMS,
werewolf-style. Discord smacks his forehead.

357 DISCORD
Did I forget to mention that the
Winterchilla transforms into a
winterZILLA when the sun sets?

The shadowy form of the fully grown winterZILLA <ROARS>.

SC. 29 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Applejack, Fluttershy, Rarity and Pinkie Pie all approach the front of the castle. None seem too excited. Applejack rings the <DOORBELL>.

358 FLUTTERSHY
How did everypony's shoppin go?

359 RARITY
Well...

360 PINKIE PIE
Um....

361 APPLEJACK
Yeah....

362 SPIKE (O.S.)
COMING!!!!

Inside, the sounds of a dragon falling down the stairs. Spike opens the door covered in glue, paper, glitter and stuck to the parasol. He's an arts and crafts disaster.

363 PINKIE PIE
Did you get attacked by a party?

364 SPIKE
I fell asleep. On somepony's present.

Suddenly, a <BOOM> from the kitchen. Twilight, Cadance and Shining Armor (with Flurry Heart) gallop towards the others.

365 TWILIGHT
RUN! THE PUDDING IS COMING!!!!

A mountain of pudding oozes through the kitchen doorway. Everypony turns to run, but Rainbow Dash and Discord rush towards them.

366 RAINBOW DASH
RUN! THE WINTERZILLA IS COMING!

The monstrous winterzilla runs towards them, <ROARING>! The pudding <OOZES> overtaking everything. And we...

END ACT FIVE

ACT SIX**SC. 30 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - RESUME**

Resume on the ponies. Rainbow Dash stares at the mountain of pudding. Twilight looks up at the angry winterzilla.

367 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT IS THAT?!

368 TWILIGHT
Magic pudding. What is THAT?!

369 RAINBOW DASH
A winterchilla.

370 TWILIGHT
They turn into winterZILLAS after
dark!

371 RAINBOW DASH
DOES EVERYPONY KNOW THIS EXCEPT ME?

The Winterzilla rushes towards them. Thinking fast, Twilight levitates Spike (sparkling with glitter) in front of the winterzilla, distracting it.

372 TWILIGHT
OOH SPARKLY! You like the sparkly?
Just follow it this way...

373 SPIKE
Is this honestly the best plan we
can come up with?

Mesmerized, the winterzilla reaches for the sparkly dragon. Twilight keeps Spike just out of reach, luring the creature away. Rainbow Dash glares at Discord, who munches on popcorn, enjoying the show.

374 RAINBOW DASH
Can't you do something?!

375 DISCORD
I DID. This is Fluttershy's gift!

376 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT?!

377 RARITY (O.S.)
A little help, please!

Rarity stands on top of a large chair, as pudding oozes around her. Shining Armor hands Flurry Heart to Cadance.

378 SHINING ARMOR
I've got this!

Cadance hands Flurry Heart back to Shining Armor.

379 CADANCE
Which one of us can fly, darling?

Cadance swoops over the pudding, grabbing Rarity and flying her to a balcony. Shining Armor beams to Flurry Heart.

380 SHINING ARMOR
Your mom sure is something.

Shining Armor leaps over the pudding, grabs a tapestry and swings to the balcony to join Cadance and Rarity.

381 CADANCE
You're not so bad yourself.

Flurry hugs both her parents, <BABBLING> happily.

382 TWILIGHT (O.S.)
No no, not THAT sparkly. This one!

ANGLE ON THE FOYER: Twilight has a slight problem. Spike floats outside the castle entrance, but the winterzilla is more interested in the sparkly Hearth's Warming decorations.

383 SPIKE
Uh, Twilight? I'm okay if he doesn't want to chase me anymore.

384 APPLEJACK
How we gonna get rid of this thing?

385 DISCORD
(eyeroll)
For Scorpan's sake. IF ONLY ONE OF YOU HAD A WAY WITH ANIMALS??

They all turn to Fluttershy.

386 FLUTTERSHY
Oh my.

Fluttershy flies up to get the winterzilla's attention.

387 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Uh. Excuse me.

The winterzilla <ROARS> blowing her backwards. She glares at it, she's had enough.

388 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
This is supposed to be the happiest time of year. So if this is how you plan on behaving, you can march yourself right back where you came from.

The winterzilla's lip quivers and it bursts into tears. It mumbles something only Fluttershy can understand.

389 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Oh. Your family is gone for the holidays and you're all alone? I'm so sorry. If you calm down I'm sure you could join us...

The winterzilla <SNIFFS> back tears and sits with a giant <THUD>. Meanwhile, pudding oozes around Twilight. She leaps in the air. Pinkie floats past on an INFLATABLE POOL CHAIR.

390 PINKIE PIE
Maybe leave baking to me next time?

Pinkie dips a hoof in the pudding and tastes it.

391 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Actually, it's pretty good!

392 TWILIGHT
Chancellor Puddinghead's recipe.

393 PINKIE PIE
Now THAT'S an impressive dessert!

394 TWILIGHT
(proud of herself)
I KNEW you would think so! It's your Hearth's Warming present!

395 PINKIE PIE
Really? WOW. That's so thoughtful!

396 TWILIGHT
It took a lot of research but I -

Shining Armor yells from the balcony.

397 SHINING ARMOR
MAYBE FOCUS ON THE TASK AT HOOF,
TWILY?

398 TWILIGHT
Right. The recipe needed to be exact. I think Flurry Heart added something while I wasn't looking but I have no idea what to add to adjust it. A teaspoon of nutmeg? Three sugarplums? Extra-

399 PINKIE PIE
Gingerbread? Four more Candy Canes?

400 TWILIGHT
How do you know the recipe?

Pinkie stares at the box and remembers her conversation.

401 PINKIE PIE (V.O.)
I don't get it.

402 ALICE (V.O.)
You will.

She opens the box and pulls out gingerbread, sugar plums, nutmeg, cinnamon and five candy canes.

403 PINKIE PIE
HAPPY HEARTH'S WARMING TWILIGHT!
I'M YOUR HEARTH WARMING HELPER!!!

She tosses the random ingredients into the pudding. It sparkles magically before shuddering and settling. The ponies take a relieved beat. Discord sits in a movie theater chair popcorn and taking notes.

404 DISCORD
A bit reindeer-ex-machina, but--
(thumbs fly into the air)
Two thumbs WAY WAY up! <<ALT. I give it ALL the thumbs!>>

FADE TO:

SC. 31 - INT. TWILIGHT'S FOYER - LATER

The bedraggled ponies (and dragon and draconequis) sit by the Hearth, eating bowls of pudding.

405 TWILIGHT
Sorry for failing as a
Hearthwarming Helper, Pinkie.

406 PINKIE PIE
What?! With no pudding disaster, my gift with the EXACT ingredients wouldn't have made any sense! This way it was perfect!

Rarity turns to Applejack.

407 RARITY
At least Twilight has something to show for her effort. I ordered a fabulous farm hat for you, Applejack. Alas, it decided it belonged to somepony else.

408 APPLEJACK
Pop said sometimes the hat chooses the pony when he gave me this.
(she tips her hat)
Hopefully my gift inspired whoever's wearin' it to be the best farmer ever.

409 RARITY
Errr... Something like that.

Fluttershy and Applejack turn to Spike and Rainbow Dash, each holding Holly the Hearthwarmer dolls.

410 FLUTTERSHY
We're really sorry about your gifts.

411 APPLEJACK
We got a bit distracted with Flim and Flam's shenanigans.

The arm on Spike's doll falls off. Rainbow Dash squeezes her Holly the Hearthwarmer, and Flim's voice comes out.

412 FLIM (V.O.)
Commercialism is the greatest gift of all.

413 RAINBOW DASH
Hey, they're better than my gift. Sorry about the winterzilla.

Fluttershy smiles.

414 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, he's a big sweetheart. And he ended up being really helpful!

Behind them, the winterzilla happily eats through the mountain of pudding, cleaning up the castle.

415 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
It was actually kind of nice to be the pony who saved the day.

416 DISCORD
OH! So you mean a giant beast that only FLUTTERSHY could tame, making her the hero of Hearth's Warming Eve was a great gift? Imagine that.

Rainbow Dash stares at Discord in disbelief.

417 RAINBOW DASH
You mean you tricked me into putting my friends in danger on purpose so you could --

Discord points. They both watch as the winterzilla stomps in and nuzzles next to Fluttershy.

418 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Let's say it was from BOTH of us.

419 APPLEJACK
Sorry y'all. I guess Hearthwarmin' Helper was kind of a disaster.

420 CADANCE
I don't know. Ponyville always seems to have WAY more exciting holidays than the Crystal Empire.

Flurry Heart claps her hooves together enthusiastically. Shining Armor puts his hoof around Twilight.

Spike clears his throat. He's holding a small guitar.

421 SPIKE
There's one gift left. But I messed up too.
(to Rarity)
Your present's only kinda-finished, Rarity. But it's better than nothing, I guess.

He starts <STRUMMING> the guitar.

422 SPIKE (CONT'D)
*I wanted to get you
Something oh so rare.
A gift to show I care
(MORE)*

SPIKE (CONT'D)

*But nothing can compare
to you that's easy to see.
So when I got stressed
I sorta overthought
Until the day was shot
So it was all for naught.
And now it's so clear to me*

*I'm not gifted at gifting
It's really pretty sad
I tried to show how much I care
But then it turned out bad
I'm not gifted at gifting
And all that's left to say
Is that I hope my gifting
Didn't ruin your Holiday.*

<SONG> ends. Spike looks up. Rarity applauds.

423 RARITY
Oh, Spike. A song is a lovely
present!

424 SPIKE
I wanted to get you the best gift
ever. I just couldn't figure out
what it was.

425 PINKIE PIE
Ooo! Ooo! The gift givers told me
that! Ummmm.... What was it?

Pinkie sings.

426 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
*The best gift is
More precious than gold
But it cannot be sold.
When it breaks it's not ended
For quickly it's mended
It can never be bought
Yet is easily sought.*

Twilight <CHUCKLES>.

427 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
What's so funny?

428 TWILIGHT
It's a riddle.

Twilight joins Spike as the <MUSIC SWELLS>, continuing--

429 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
*The most magical gifts
That I can recall
Could have been big or small
Or even nothing at all
It doesn't matter you see
As long as it's from you
Such amazing friends
on whom I depend
Won't matter what you spend
It will be perfect to me*

Everypony (and dragon and draconequis) join in.

430 ALL TOGETHER
*The true gift of gifting
Is what it means inside
So we can show how much we care
Share love and friendship far and
wide
The true gift of gifting
Is totally free
You're the best there is at giving
it
The Friendship you share with me*

SC. 32 - EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS

A shooting star streaks across the sky.

431 ALICE (V.O.)
And so it worked out!
The night was a success
And a lesson was learned
There's no need to obsess.
Gift giving is simple
As long as you recall--

Pinkie suddenly POPS into FRAME - TO CAMERA:

432 PINKIE PIE
Oh I GET IT! Friendship is the best
gift of all!!!

THE END