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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 7

Daring Done?
Ep 717

LOCKED SCRIPT

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Friendship Lesson: Never give up hope.

TEASER

FADE IN

SC. 1 - EXT. PONYVILLE STREET - DAY

PINKIE PIE and RAINBOW DASH trot up to a NEWSPAPER PONY.

1 NEWSPAPER PONY
Morning, Pinkie Pie. Got your
Ponyville Chronicle right here!

Pinkie stomps her hooves in a tiny excited dance as she
tosses him a few BITS and takes the paper.

2 PINKIE PIE
Fan-tizzy-astic! (TO DASH) I just love
to read about happy happenings and
it's always good to be a pony in the
know, you know?

Pinkie unfurls the paper with a huge smile.

3 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
And there's *so much* to know!

Rainbow Dash shrugs.

4 RAINBOW DASH
Seems like a bunch of boring hooey to
me.

The two ponies walk through the market as they talk. Pinkie
points to a headline.

5 PINKIE PIE
Does "NEW SHRUBBERY IN CASTLE GARDEN"!
sound like boring hooey to you?!

6 RAINBOW DASH
Snooze.

7 PINKIE PIE
What about "PARASPRITE INFESTATION IN
FILLYDELPHIA ERADICATED"?! That's
great news!

8 RAINBOW DASH
(DISMISSIVE WAVE) Another day, another
parasprite hype story.

Pinkie gives Dash a perturbed look. She flips through the pages with purpose as they keep walking.

9 PINKIE PIE
Noodles named official food of
Whinnyapolis! Author A.K. Yearling
announces retirement! Cloudsdale
election heating up for candidate in
favor of cooling it down!

Dash stops dead in her tracks. Her eyes go huge.

10 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT?! Let me see that!

Dash snatches the paper and looks closer.

11 PINKIE PIE
(PROUD) I never knew you were so into
politics, Rainbow.

12 RAINBOW DASH
No, this!

Dash points her hoof at the page.

13 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
(IN DISBELIEF) It can't be true...

14 PINKIE PIE
I'd have never have picked noodles as
the official food of Whinnyapolis,
either. But here we are!

15 RAINBOW DASH
No, Pinkie! I can't believe... that
the greatest author and secret pony
adventurer of all time-- A.K. Yearling--
is retiring!

Off Rainbow's horrified face we...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 2 - EXT. JUNGLE/FOREST- LATER

Dash and Pinkie rush through the forest. Pinkie still has the NEWSPAPER.

16 PINKIE PIE
A.K. Yearling just retired-- like,
today. Are you sure she wants
visitors?

17 RAINBOW DASH
Pinkie, the A.K. Yearling I know would
never quit and retire out of the blue!
Something could be really wrong and we
need to make sure she's okay.

18 PINKIE PIE
Okay!

Pinkie Pie, suddenly looks up with a suspicious eyebrow at Dash.

19 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Heeeeey, you're not just trying to make
sure she writes more Daring Do books,
are you?

20 RAINBOW DASH
Of course not! (THEN) But that
wouldn't hurt either. Now, come on!

With that, Dash gives a burst of speed and shoots ahead.
Pinkie gallops to follow.

SC. 3 - EXT. A.K. YEARLING'S COTTAGE - SHORTLY AFTER

CLOSE on a hoof knocking loud. REVEAL that Pinkie and Rainbow
at A.K. Yearling's doorstep. A beat, nothing. Rainbow and
Pinkie exchange a nervous look.

21 RAINBOW DASH
Maybe she's not home. (BRIGHTENING)
Maybe she went to the editor-in-chief
of the Ponyville Chronicle to correct
the misprint they've made!

22 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
Nope. She's home.

23 RAINBOW DASH
How do you know?

REVEAL - Pinkie with her muzzle pressed up against the FRONT
WINDOW.

24 PINKIE PIE
Because she's right there... looking
all sad and alone.

25 RAINBOW DASH
I knew it. Something is wrong!

Rainbow knocks again, harder this time. Pinkie keeps watching from the window.

26 PINKIE PIE
Now she's sighing with the weight of the world! (BEAT) Now she's hanging her head in utter despair! (BEAT) Now she's shaking her hoof and cursing the heavens like nothing could ever possibly be the same ever again! Why-oh-why-did-this-happen-to-her...

27 RAINBOW DASH
What?!

Rainbow presses her face against the window, too.

28 PINKIE PIE
(GIGGLING) Whoops. Never mind, that time she was just stretching.

Dash flies back to the door and knocks even harder this time.

29 RAINBOW DASH
A.K., it's us-- Rainbow Dash and Pinkie Pie! Your friends!

The door swings open. A disheveled (and hat-less) A.K. YEARLING stands there, shocked but relieved. She looks around and quickly ushers Rainbow and Pinkie inside.

SC. 4 - INT. A.K. YEARLING'S COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

The place is a mess, but unlike MLP404 this is organized chaos. CHESTS, STACKS OF BOOKS, PITH HELMETS, and the famous TYPEWRITER are all being packed away. Dash takes it in.

30 RAINBOW DASH
Oh no. Did somepony ransack your cottage again and steal some ancient mysterious relic that's the key to saving all of Equestria?

Pinkie Pie picks a random golden RELIC from a treasure chest and inspects it. She begins to play with it. Suddenly, it starts GLOWING and EMITTING SPARKS (Pinkie is unharmed).

31 PINKIE PIE
Oooh! Sparky!

A.K. Yearling dives for the relic and puts it back in the chest gently. Pinkie starts looking in another trunk.

32 A.K. YEARLING
Nothing's been stolen.

33 RAINBOW DASH (V.O.)
(GASP) Then is somepony blackmailing you and forcing you to retire?! Cuz if they are...

Rainbow Dash puffs up and gets in "action" pose.

34 A.K. YEARLING
No. Nothing like that...

35 RAINBOW DASH
So you're just quitting and moving away!? (GIVING A.K. A SHAKE) WHY. WOULD. YOU. DO. THAT?

36 A.K. YEARLING
(ANNOYED) I already explained everything to the Ponyville Chronicle.

Rainbow snatches the newspaper from Pinkie Pie.

37 RAINBOW DASH
Oh, really!? (THEN, READING) "Author A.K. Yearling announced yesterday that the next adventure novel in her popular series, 'Daring Do and the Curse of the Pharaoh's Tomb' will be her last. Yearling looks forward to her retirement." That doesn't explain anything!

A.K. just shrugs.

38 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
(EXASPERATED) It just says you're giving up writing stories. But most ponies don't know that you actually are Daring Do and the stories are real. So really what you're saying is that you're giving up being Daring Do, but you're not saying why!

A.K. turns away, perturbed, and goes back to packing. Pinkie steps in before Dash completely loses it.

39 PINKIE PIE
Of course, if you don't feel like talking about it, that's A-Okay, A.K.!
(MORE)

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
As your friends, we completely
understand. (WITH A LOOK TO DASH)
Right, Rainbow Dash?

40 RAINBOW DASH
(composing herself) Oh. Yeah. We just
came to make sure you're all right.
That's really why we wanted to find
out what's going on.

At this, A.K. softens. She sits down and looks back and forth
between her friends, then slumps her shoulders.

41 A.K. YEARLING
If you really want to know...

A.K. opens a desk drawer.

42 A.K. YEARLING (CONT'D)
My last quest took me to a village in
Southern Equestria where I started
seeing these.

A.K. sheepishly pulls out a stack of NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS and
passes them to PINKIE PIE.

43 PINKIE PIE
(READS DRAMATICALLY) "WAKE OF
DESTRUCTION: DARING DO RUINS ENTIRE
VILLAGE MARKETPLACE"!

Rainbow Dash leans over and reads the next one.

44 RAINBOW DASH
(INCREDULOUS) "DARE OR SCARE? LOCAL
ROGUE 'DARING DO' INVOLVED IN
FRIGHTFUL FIASCO"?

45 PINKIE PIE
(DRAMATICALLY) "DARING DO LEADS BULL
INTO CHINA SHOP DURING HIGH SPEED
CHASE--"

46 A.K. YEARLING
(CUTTING THEM OFF) That's enough!
(THEN DEJECTED) Everypony I tried to
help is mad at me.

47 PINKIE PIE
(CHIPPER) That's not true! They're not
mad at A.K. Yearling. They're mad at
"Daring Do".

48 A.K. YEARLING
They don't sell my books in Southern Equestria. The ponies there don't know who A.K. Yearling is. They only know Daring Do and apparently she does more harm than good.

Pinkie looks at a picture of Daring Do in the paper. She quickly scribbles a BIG HAT and GLASSES on it. She holds it up in comparison and squints. It looks exactly the same.

49 PINKIE PIE
I guess it's a good thing you look so different as A.K. Yearling!

Rainbow Dash holds up the newspaper clippings.

50 RAINBOW DASH
All we have to do is go down there and explain to these ponies that none of this stuff is true.

51 PINKIE PIE
Easy-peazy-cheezy!

A.K. shakes her head.

52 A.K. YEARLING
But that's just the thing... it is true.

53 DASH/PINKIE
WHAT!?

54 A.K. YEARLING
I guess I've always been so focused on saving priceless relics and stopping the bad guys that I never really thought about the mess I leave behind.

55 PINKIE PIE
Then you ARE in a tricky pickle. But why is this all happening now?

56 A.K. YEARLING
(SHRUGS) I guess ponies are finally fed up. Either way, I'm done with adventures - having or writing.

57 RAINBOW DASH
Come on! For every one pony who's upset, there must be at least a hundred that know you're a hero.

58 A.K. YEARLING
I don't think so, Dash.

A.K. goes back to packing her things, but Dash won't take no for an answer.

59 RAINBOW DASH
Well, why don't we go visit this village (READS PAPER) "Somnambula" and see for ourselves.

60 A.K. YEARLING
Those articles seem to make it pretty clear how the villagers feel.

61 PINKIE PIE
But if we go there, the ponies can tell you in person just how much they appreciate you.

62 RAINBOW DASH
And what a heap of rotten apple cores these articles are!

A beat as A.K. considers the proposition. She looks to Pinkie, who smiles encouragingly back.

63 A.K. YEARLING
You really think so?

64 RAINBOW DASH
I know so! Let's go!

Pinkie and Rainbow smile. A.K. sighs and puts on her GREY HAT. Off her uncertain expression...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 5 - MAP OF EQUESTRIA - ROUTE TO SOUTHERN EQUESTRIA

An Indiana Jones-esque map shows the route the ponies travel to SOUTHERN EQUESTRIA.

The destination is SOMNAMBULA, an Egyptian-style village. Illustrations of PYRAMIDS and a SPHINX surround the drawings of HUTS/HOUSES.

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 6 - EXT. VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - LATER

The terrain is dry and desert-like, sand everywhere. The ponies walk toward the Egyptian-inspired village of SOMNAMBULA.

A.K. Yearling, Pinkie Pie, and Rainbow Dash stop at the village entrance and take in the scene. It's a bustling marketplace-- complete with APPLE SELLERS, SPICE VENDORS, and many ponies dressed in Egyptian style finery.

Rainbow forgets that they aren't on a regular adventure.

65 RAINBOW DASH
(GIDDY) This is so cool! It looks just like that village in your last book where Daring Do recovers the Doomed Diadem from The Wild Bunch Gang who chase after her through the desert!

66 A.K. YEARLING
It should. I based that entire chapter on my experiences here in Somnambula.

67 PINKIE PIE
What happens?! No wait, don't tell me. (then) I CHANGED MY MIND! TELL ME!

68 RAINBOW DASH
Daring Do thwarts Ahuizotl's evil plot to separate the Sister Crown Relics. And if it wasn't for her, the region would be cursed with eternal night and the entire town of Somnambula would have sunk into the ground!

69 PINKIE PIE
Pssht! Then there's no chance that these ponies don't think you're a hero.

Hopeful, A.K. adjusts her glasses (NOTE: the ponies of this region know her as Daring Do, so they don't recognize her in her author garb).

70 RAINBOW DASH
(TO A.K.) Watch this.

A nearby SOMNAMBULAN VILLAGER is busy tending to his APPLE CART. He's an elder Stallion (NOTE: the cart should have clear damage/look broken).

Rainbow Dash trots up, confident. She's got this. Rainbow winks at A.K. and Pinkie in an encouraging way.

71 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
(OVERLY LOUD) Hiya there, Mister!

The elder stallion does a little bow with one hoof down in the vain of a regional greeting.

72 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I was hoping you could tell me about a pony named Daring Do. I hear she's an awesome adventure-pony hero.

73 ELDER STALLION
Daring Do? (NODS) Oh, she's awesome all right--

Rainbow grins. This plan is going perfect! A.K. looks up, hopefully.

74 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
(WITH SUDDEN ANGER)--awesome at destroying ponies' apple carts--

ANGLE ON the damage on his apple cart.

75 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
--and priceless, sacred statues!

The elder stallion points his hoof behind him. ANGLE ON a PILE OF RUBBLE that still has the basic structure of pony statue.

A CLOAKED PONY with his hood over his head steps forward. The hood is obstructing his face (NOTE: we will learn this is DR. CABALLERON in disguise).

76 CLOAKED PONY
Indeed. Daring Do is a menace who destroys everything she touches!

The Cloaked Pony points to the nearby MARKETPLACE. TWO VILLAGER PONIES (construction-types, but ancient-style) are putting the finishing touches on a new TENT STRUCTURE. They hammer and saw. The villager ponies nod in agreement. Rainbow's face falls with a <RECORD SCRATCH SFX>.

77 RAINBOW DASH
What?! No! Daring Do is the exact opposite of a menace.

Unseen, by our trio, the cloaked pony smiles an evil grin. A.K. pulls Dash aside.

78 A.K. YEARLING
(ANGRY ASIDE) I tried to tell you--
Coming back here was a mistake!

With that, A.K. takes off running. Off Dash and Pinkie's worried expressions we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**SC. 7 - EXT. EDGE OF VILLAGE - RESUME**

Pinkie runs and Rainbow flies after a galloping A.K. Yearling
(NOTE: She is still in her "author" cloak, i.e., not flying).

79 RAINBOW DASH
Come on, A.K.! So we picked a bad
example. That was just one angry pony!

80 PINKIE PIE
(CHIPPER) *Two* angry ponies!

A.K. shakes her head and keeps running - headed out of town.

81 A.K. YEARLING
It doesn't matter. I never should have
come with you! You two should just go
home.

With that, A.K. surges ahead, charging past the village gates
and out into the dessert. Dash and Pinkie come to a stop and
stare after, distraught.

82 RAINBOW DASH
Come on! We gotta follow her!

Pinkie Pie scrunches her face, unsure.

83 PINKIE PIE
I dunno... it *really* seemed like she
doesn't want us cramping her saddle.

84 RAINBOW DASH
But we have to convince her that
ponies do appreciate her! As her
friend, I have to make sure she
believes that.

Rainbow takes off. Pinkie follows, concerned.

SC. 8 - EXT. "GET ON INN" BARN & BREAKFAST - EVENING

Rainbow and Pinkie Pie crest a sand dune - following A.K.'s
hoofprints which lead out of the desert and toward a wooded
area where a quaint hotel sits.

It's cozy-- smoke coming from the chimney with a bustling
tavern attached to the side. Dash smiles.

85 RAINBOW DASH
Look, Pinkie! It's the "Get On Inn".
Daring Do stays here all the time in
her adventures.

Rainbow brightens.

86 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Which means there must be ponies here
who love Daring Do! Maybe they can
help us.

Smells waft from the restaurant straight to Pinkie Pie's
nose. She breathes in and smiles.

87 PINKIE PIE
Mmmmm. My nose is telling me to help
myself-- (WITH A SNIFF) to muffins.

SC. 9 - "GET ON INN" BARN & BREAKFAST - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash and Pinkie Pie stand at the hotel check-in
counter. Rainbow rings the SERVICE BELL.

88 RAINBOW DASH
(IMPATIENT) Come on.

Rainbow rings the bell again and a grumpy older mare, MRS.
TROTSWORTH, waddles in. She's wearing a FRILLY LACE DRESS and
too much COSTUME JEWELRY - a bit Grey Gardens-esque.

89 PINKIE PIE
(ASIDE TO DASH) Ooo, she's fancy.
(WINKS) I got this!

Dash opens her mouth to speak, but Pinkie takes the lead.

90 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(OVERLY FORMAL) A good evening to you,
Madam! We are but weary travelers who
humbly wish to inquire on the status
of a certain mare of intrigue taking
residence here?

91 MRS. TROTSWORTH
(BRUSQUE) What in Southern Equestria
are you on about?

92 PINKIE PIE
(DROPPING THE FORMAL TONE) Is it true
that Daring Do stays here?!

Mrs. Trotsworth frowns and grunts.

93 MRS. TROTZWORTH
Not anymore, she doesn't!

94 RAINBOW DASH
Why not?

95 MRS. TROTZWORTH
The last time I rented that rascal a room, she was in a such a rush to high-tail it outta here, she didn't even pay her bill!

96 RAINBOW DASH
But--

97 MRS. TROTZWORTH
(CUTTING HER OFF) After that, a band of ruffians showed up and destroyed half the rooms looking for her. Guess she made them even more mad than she made me!

98 RAINBOW DASH
No, no, no. You've got it all wrong.

Mrs. Trotsworth grunts and raises an eyebrow.

99 MRS. TROTZWORTH
How do ya figure?

Rainbow rolls her eyes.

100 RAINBOW DASH
Daring Do was trying to *save* everypony from the Curse of the Doomed Diadem of Xilati (Zhee-lah-tee)! And she was only in a rush because she had to get the crown back to the Tiara of Teotlale (Tee-oat-lah-lay) before the curse took effect. (ASIDE TO PINKIE)
Chapter seventeen.

101 MRS. TROTZWORTH
Sounds like a tall tale to me. And a hard one to believe now that I know Daring Do is a scoundrel and a thief!

Off Dash and Pinkie's shock, Mrs. Trotsworth grasps at a string of slightly luminescent gems (GLOWPAZ) around her neck.

102 MRS. TROTZWORTH (CONT'D)
Every year ponies come to offer
precious glowpaz to the Sonmambula
statue in the village in hopes for a
good future.

Trotsworth motions to a Cloaked Pony trotting into the PUB
ENTRANCE (Note: same one as before, but the ponies don't
realize it).

103 MRS. TROTZWORTH (CONT'D)
(SHAKING HER HEAD) That poor fella had
his glowpaz necklace stolen by Daring
Do just yesterday!

Pinkie and Rainbow exchange a look of disbelief and move to
follow the Cloaked Pony into...

SC. 10 - INT. GET ON INN - TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Ponies chat over bowls of HOT SOUP and mugs of CIDER (NOTE:
clearly cider mugs as previously established). Jaunty MUSIC
plays in the background.

ANGLE ON the Cloaked Pony in the corner - a few ponies are
gathered around him.

ANGLE ON A.K. Yearling in the other corner - laying low, but
looking sad.

Rainbow Dash and Pinkie Pie point at them in opposite
directions.

106A RAINBOW DASH
He's over there!

106B PINKIE PIE
She's over there!

104 CLOAKED PONY
Daring Do RUINED our town and stole
our precious glowpaz! We need to make
sure that if she turns up again there
will be consequences! Everypony who's
with me, meet at the statue tomorrow!

The small crowd of ponies nod and cheer in agreement.

105 PONY WALLA
Yeah!/Definitely!/Okay!

A.K. Yearling appears between Pinkie Pie and Rainbow Dash,
watching the mob. A.K. sighs heavily.

106 A.K. YEARLING
Now I'm getting blamed for things I
didn't even do. Why would I steal from
them?

107 RAINBOW DASH
I never thought things would be this
bad.

108 PINKIE PIE
They are SUPER BAD! But... we're still
staying the night, right?

She pops a muffin into her mouth and grins as she chews.

109 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(CHEWING) Because I already ate all
the free mini muffins!!

Rainbow turns to A.K. Yearling, a look of determination on
her face.

110 RAINBOW DASH
Listen, A.K., after a good night's
sleep we're going to fix all of this.
I promise.

A.K. <SIGHS> realizing that Dash is not going to give up.

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 11 - EXT. VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - NEXT DAY

A.K., Pinkie, and Rainbow stand right in the center of town
(next to the statue rubble).

111 A.K. YEARLING
(WHISPERED) I shouldn't be here,
Rainbow Dash. This is never going to
work.

112 RAINBOW DASH
Are you kidding? Of course it will!
All I have to do is go up there and
explain to everypony how WRONG they
all are.

113 PINKIE PIE
Yeah! And then I'll be like-- *what she
said!*

114 A.K. YEARLING
(UNCONVINCED) Easy-peazy-cheezy.

115 PINKIE PIE
Exactly!

Ponies start to gather around the statue as the Cloaked Pony steps up and turns to the crowd. Our trio hangs in the back.

116 CLOAKED PONY
Here it is! The remains of your-- I mean *our* Somnambula statue. Now that Daring Do has destroyed it, tell me... where will we hang our glowpaz?!

117 RANDOM VILLAGER
We don't even have any glowpaz because they were stolen by Daring Do!

118 PONY WALLA
Yeah!/She is a menace!/Boo!

Rainbow Dash can't take it anymore. She flies up next to Cloaked Pony and addresses the crowd.

119 RAINBOW DASH
Daring Do would never steal anything! And okay, *yeah*-- she destroyed your statue, but it was because she was trying to save you all from Ahuizotl!

The ponies look back at her, blank-faced.

120 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Ahuizotl? (EXPLAINING) He's about yea big?

Dash flies up and does the "this tall" motion with her wing.

121 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Long neck? Itty-bitty face? Weird claw thingy on his tail?

122 PINKIE PIE
Ooo! Ooo! I know him! (TO RANDOM PONY)
He's a baddie.

The ponies start to whisper with concern, coming around. Dash turns to the Cloaked Pony.

123 RAINBOW DASH
Trust me, if Ahuizotl had gotten away with the Doomed Diadem, your entire village would have been swallowed up! And that's a lot worse than losing some CRUMMY old statue!

Everypony gasps. The APPLE CART STALLION from earlier steps forward. He points to the rubble underneath Rainbow's hooves. She hops back and realizes she's been standing on a series of HIEROGLYPHICS!

124 ELDER STALLION
(CLEARING HIS THROAT) This was not just some crummy old statue. It was the namesake of our town. If you want to understand us, you must first understand her.

125 RAINBOW DASH
Who?

126 ELDER STALLION
Somnambula...

ANGLE ON the hieroglyphics as they start to animate and we...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 12 - EXT. DESERT KINGDOM - DISTANT PAST

NOTE: The flashback is in a stylistic hieroglyphic style.

Distant pyramids tower over an ancient version of Somnambula.

127 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
...Long ago this village fell prey to an evil Sphinx who demanded most of their crops.

ZOOM IN to the marketplace to find SOMNAMBULA, a Pegasus in a tunic and a single strand of pearls. She sees a poor, hungry OLD MARE. Somnambula looks from the old mare to her pearls.

She takes her pearls off and uses them to buy BREAD for the old mare. Her actions catch the eye of a well to do pony, PRINCE HISAN.

128 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
Like her fellow villagers, Somnambula didn't have much, but she used what she had to keep others from giving up hope.

Impressed, Prince Hisan approaches.

129 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
The son of the Pharaoh, Prince Hisan, was so moved by her compassion, that he decreed nopony would go hungry again.

DISSOLVE TO the Prince and the PHARAOH standing before a gigantic SPHINX.

130 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
But when Hisan stood up to the Sphinx,
the beast captured him - telling the
Pharaoh the only way to get Hisan back
was to solve her riddle.

The Pharaoh watches as the Sphinx carries the Prince off to a distant pyramid. He looks to his court who cower before him. Finally, Somnambula emerges from the crowd.

131 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
No pony would volunteer to save the
prince. No pony except Somnambula.

SC. 13 - EXT. SPHINX'S PYRAMID - FLASHBACK - LATER

Somnambula stands before the Sphinx. *Note: When the Sphinx and Somnambula speak below, we see their mouths move, but hear the voice of our narrator pony.*

132 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
The Sphinx gave her the riddle, "I
shine brightest in the dark. I am
there but cannot be seen. To have me
costs you nothing. To be without me
costs you everything."

The Sphinx bares its teeth, but Somnambula stands her ground.

133 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
As Somnambula thought of the hardship
she and her fellow villages had
experienced, she instantly knew the
answer. "HOPE!" She shouted.

The Sphinx frowns and raises her claws in anger.

134 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
The Sphinx was so enraged, it seemed
she might still refuse to release the
prince, so Somnambula asked her for
one more challenge - but if she
accomplished it, the Sphinx would
leave from the kingdom forever. The
Sphinx quickly agreed, asking only
that Somnambula walk to the prince...

PULL OUT to REVEAL a narrow bridge across a dangerous, deep chasm. On the other side, the prince is chained to a GOLDEN PEDESTAL.

135 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
...across a deep chasm, blindfolded!

We see Somnambula blindfolded standing before the bridge.

136 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
Further, the Sphinx had cast a
powerful spell that prevented
Somnambula from flying.

Somnambula stumbles near the edge and tries to spread her wings, but cannot. The Sphinx laughs.

137 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
But Somnambula never lost HOPE! She
knew she'd need to make a leap of
faith to save the prince.

Somnambula steals herself and leaps onto the bridge. We see the Prince call to her.

138 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
Guided by the sound of the prince's
voice, she easily made it across.

Somnambula reaches the Prince and frees him. The Sphinx screams in rage and flies off.

SC. 14 - EXT. DESERT KINGDOM - FLASHBACK - NIGHT

Somnambula stands before the Pharaoh and his court.

139 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
The Pharaoh asked how Somnambula
prevailed and she explained that she
had always hoped she could make things
better for her people and that hope
had carried her through.

The Prince steps forward and hangs a NECKLACE OF GLOWING STONES around her neck.

140 ELDER STALLION (V.O.)
The Prince replaced the pearls
Somnambula gave up with a string of
Glowpaz. And around her neck, they
glowed bright enough to light the
entire kingdom.

DISSOLVE BACK TO:

SC. 15 - VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - RESUME

The crowd of ponies all smile as the Elder Stallion finishes the story.

141 ELDER STALLION
For ever after, Glowpaz became our
symbol of hope.

142 PINKIE PIE
(claps) That story made me feel warm
right down to the bottom of my hooves!

143 RAINBOW DASH
Wow. I had no idea how special the
statue was to you. Somnambula sounds
like a pretty cool pony. But I bet if
she were here, she'd tell you how cool
Daring Do is too because they've both
fought to protect this town!

Several ponies look like Dash is swaying them. The Cloaked Pony (Caballeron) realizes he's losing the crowd and points to the destroyed statue.

144 CLOAKED PONY
If Somnambula were here today she
would condemn Daring Do for destroying
yo-- (CORRECTING) OUR symbol of hope!

145 PONY WALLA
Yeah!/Boo to Doo!/No more Daring Do!

As the crowd's temperament swings back, A.K. turns away, distraught. Rainbow watches from the front of the crowd as A.K. walks off. Off Dash's worried expression we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**SC. 16 - VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - RESUME**

As the crowd breaks up Pinkie Pie follows A.K. Dash pulls the Cloaked Pony aside, fuming.

146 RAINBOW DASH
Hey buddy! What did Daring Do ever do
to you to deserve all this?

147 CLOAKED PONY
Only... *everything!*

The Cloaked Pony steps into the light and throws back his hood to reveal that he is... DR. CABALLERON!

148 RAINBOW DASH
...Dr. Caballeron?!

149 DR. CABALLERON
Yes... Rainbow Dash.

Caballeron gives a hearty evil laugh.

150 DR. CABALLERON (CONT'D)
When I saw you, her closest friend, I knew that Daring Do would not be far behind. I really do owe you for leading her right to me.

151 RAINBOW DASH
But I didn't mean--

152 DR. CABALLERON
Thank you for helping me break Daring Do's spirit by destroying her reputation, but I can't have you running off and telling her my plan.

Caballeron WHISTLES and suddenly his group of HENCHPONIES emerge from the crowd. They close in on Rainbow Dash and blindfold her. Following Caballeron, they pull Dash along with them as they all walk out of the village.

They gang of villains pass A.K. and Pinkie Pie who look on, horrified.

153 A.K. YEARLING
Caballeron?! No.

154 PINKIE PIE
He's got Rainbow Dash!

Pinkie takes off after them, but A.K. is frozen in her tracks. Off her shocked expression...

SC. 17 - EXT. DESERT NEAR SOMNAMBULA - MOMENTS LATER

Sand for miles. A pyramid in the background (like in the legend). A cloud of dust moves along the horizon.

ZOOM IN to reveal that it's PINKIE PIE! She stops for a moment and the dust settles. She hyperventilates, sticking her tongue out.

155 PINKIE PIE
(PANTING) I'm... coming... Rainbow...
Dash....

Suddenly, a FAMILIAR SILHOUETTE appears on the horizon!
Pinkie squints to see... DARING DO!!!

156 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I knew you'd come!

Pinkie bounces up and squeals. Daring Do gallops over.

157 DARING DO
You did? I sure didn't. What if I
cause more trouble?

158 PINKIE PIE
You won't.

159 DARING DO
How do you know?

160 PINKIE PIE
I just do! You wouldn't let anything
happen to Rainbow Dash. You care too
much.

Daring Do gets a determined look on her face.

161 DARING DO
You're right. Which way did they go?

Daring Do looks around, shielding her eyes. She pulls out
BINOCULARS.

162 DARING DO (CONT'D)
To the pyramid!

They take off.

SC. 18 - EXT. ENTRANCE OF THE PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

A DILAPIDATED SPHINX STATUE dwarfs Pinkie Pie and Daring Do.

163 PINKIE PIE
Come on, Sphinky! Give me a riddle!

It doesn't budge.

164 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Aw, you're no fun.

The sound of Rainbow's <CRIES> echo out to them and they rush
inside...

SC. 19 - INT. SPHINX'S PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

...and immediately come to a screeching halt! Just like the legend, Rainbow Dash is blindfolded and chained to a GOLDEN PEDESTAL, across a wide chasm.

165 RAINBOW DASH
Pinkie Pie! Daring Do! Is that you?!

Daring and Pinkie stand on the edge and look down. A mysterious green, bubbly, glowing SLIME fills the bottom.

166 PINKIE PIE
Don't worry, Rainbow! We'll save you!

A familiar <LAUGH> echoes through the cavernous room.

REVEAL Dr. Caballeron at the opening in the very tip of the pyramid above.

167 DR. CABALLERON
If my previous plan didn't cause you to give up, Do, then the shame of losing your dear friend Rainbow Dash to the slime *will*!

Caballeron points to the green slime and cackles.

168 DR. CABALLERON (CONT'D)
Oh, and that ancient magic from the legend is real. There'll be no flying in the pyramid! Good luck, Do!

With that, Caballeron exits. Daring and Pinkie panic. They look to the slime creeping up to the pedestal. Daring tries to flap her wings, but to no effect.

169 DARING DO
He's right! We'll never get to her in time!

170 PINKIE PIE
If this really is like Somnambula's story, then we just have to have hope that we can!

171 DARING DO
I think we need more than hope, Pinkie. There was a bridge in the story and there's no bridge here. What are we going to do?

They look at Rainbow Dash struggling on the pedestal as the slime gets closer and closer.

172 PINKIE PIE
I don't know, but Rainbow Dash is our friend! Just like Somnambula, we need to make a leap of faith and hope that we can save her!

With that, Pinkie closes her eyes and leaps into the chasm! Daring Do loses sight of her.

173 DARING DO
PINKIE!

Daring Do steels herself and a visible change occurs. SHE IS DARING DO, after all! She closes her eyes and DIVES INTO THE CHASM!

CLOSE ON Daring Do as she plummets for a few seconds, then arches up into the air on a puff of MAGIC SMOKE.

REVEAL - conical (pyramid-shaped) vents have come up from the green bubbling slime. Daring and Pinkie are being carried across to Rainbow on puffs of magic smoke!

174 PINKIE PIE
Weeee! Weeee! I knew we'd do it.

The two ponies make it to the center of the pyramid, landing on the pedestal. Daring Do breathes a sigh of relief and grins at Pinkie.

175 DARING DO
Thanks for reminding me to never give up hope, Pinkie.

Rainbow Dash "looks" around with the blindfold on her face. She talks in the opposite direction to where Pinkie and Daring are standing.

176 RAINBOW DASH
And I'm kinda hoping you ponies will untie me before we all take a bath in bubbling green slime!

177 DARING DO
We're on it!

Pinkie and Daring rush over and untie RD just in time. The three ponies exchange a brief look before jumping back across the chasm on the magic puffs.

On the other side they all look back to see the pedestal sinking into the green slime.

SC. 20 - EXT. ENTRANCE OF THE PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

Daring Do, Pinkie Pie, and Rainbow Dash burst out into the sunlight. They spot Caballeron's dust cloud heading towards town and take off in pursuit.

SC. 21 - EXT. VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - CONTINUOUS

Caballeron and his crew struggle with a LARGE SACK as they make their way out of town. Suddenly, Daring Do lands right in front of them.

178 DARING DO
Not so fast, Caballeron!

The villain and his gang turn to find Dash and Pinkie blocking their retreat and drop their sack. Piles of GLOWPAZ STONES spill out and roll across the ground, right to the villagers' hooves.

179 VILLAGER MARE
YOU stole our glowpaz!

A crowd quickly gathers as Daring Do closes in.

180 DARING DO
I should have known you were just trying to sully my name so that you'd be free steal whatever you wanted.

181 DR. CABALLERON
Of course that was the plan, Do! At first I just wanted the Glowpaz... But *then* I saw an opportunity to write you out of the story FOR GOOD!

Dr. Caballeron laughs wickedly. The villagers gasp-- they've been duped!

182 DR. CABALLERON (CONT'D)
And with the destruction you leave in your wake, it didn't take much to convince ponies you were a villain.
(BEAT) Perhaps because it is TRUE?

183 DARING DO
You're wrong, Caballeron. And I won't let you break my spirit again. Because I'm *never* going to give up hope that I can protect ponies and ancient treasures from miscreants like *you*!

More villagers gather behind Daring Do in support, including Elder Pony and Mrs. Trotsworth. They stare angrily at Caballeron, who pleads with them.

184 DR. CABALLERON
Remember she ruined your statue!
You're fools to believe in her!

As the villagers close in on the group, Caballeron <GROWLS> in frustration and takes off with his boys, leaving the Glowpaz necklaces behind.

185 DR. CABALLERON (CONT'D)
You'll pay for this, Daring Do!

Everypony in the village cheers and surrounds Daring Do, lifting her up, MVP-style.

186 DARING DO
Okay, okay that's enough!

The ponies put her back down and Daring Do brushes herself off. Pinkie and Rainbow trot up all smiles.

187 DARING DO (CONT'D)
Thanks for helping me come to my
senses. You two are real pals.

188 RAINBOW DASH
Are you kidding?! That. Was. Awesome!

189 PINKIE PIE
We're just glad you're back to your
old self again!

Daring Do laughs.

190 DARING DO
Me too. But I'm glad I realized that
even if you're fighting for something
good, you're still responsible for
your actions.

191 RAINBOW DASH
And if something bad happens that you
didn't intend, you shouldn't give up
hope or lose faith in yourself.

192 PINKIE PIE
Yeah! All ya gotta do is make it
right. (winks) Feel free to use that
in your next book!

193 DARING DO
You know, I think I will.

Dash and Pinkie squeal and explodes with joy as we...

CUT TO:

SC. 22 - MONTAGE - OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

-- A delivery pony dragging a NEW APPLE CART with a bow on it walks up to the villager (from sc. 7) and passes him a SLIP OF PAPER. On it is DARING DO'S CUTIE MARK. He smiles.

-- A pouch of bits is dropped onto the front counter at the Get On Inn. Mrs. Trotsworth lifts the tag to reveal DARING DO'S CUTIE MARK. She looks touched.

-- A sparkling, new statue of the blindfolded Sonambula is revealed in the village. We see the STORYTELLER PONY cutting a ribbon in front of it. All the ponies cheer and drape the statue with pearls.

The crowd parts and we see A.K.'s satisfied face in the back. She winks at STORYTELLER PONY who smiles back, confused. After a beat he turns back but A.K. is gone!

Daring Do is back in action once more!

FADE OUT

END.