

A MIGHTY B!

by
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SPEC - "A Horse Is A Horse of Course"

An animated kids' comedy series

Sample

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EXT. SIDEWALK - MORNING

Bessie's mom drags Bessie down the sidewalk. Her heels <grind> into the PAVEMENT.

Bits of SIDEWALK fly up as if she were a jackhammer.

BESSIE

Mom! You're stifling my creative mind by making me sit there for hours that turn into years and before you know it I'm the regular who regales youths with stories of yesteryear. -

BESSIE'S MOM

Bessie, you can handle one afternoon at work. It'll be fun!

INT. CAFE - CONTINUOUS

Bessie <plops> down in a chair, defeated.

BESSIE

Do you realize what I could be doing at home? I could be curing pet allergies or making astronaut suits that accommodate my braces and slightly irregular spine!

BESSIE'S MOM

You can do all of that from here. (beat) Besides, your last babysitter's physical scars may have healed. But not her emotional ones.

BESSIE

She was supposed to stand still! That was part of the science experiment! Talk about following directions...

Bessie sits there and <taps> her fingers on the table. She looks at the ANALOG CLOCK, which reads 10:00. Bessie <fidgets> in her chair - head in her hands, then feet on the table, then laying on the floor with her feet on the chair.

She looks back at the clock. It painfully turns to 10:01.

Bessie takes out her BADGE BOOK and <slams> it on the table.

BESSIE (CONT'D)

Oh, Bee Book. You're my constant solace. We shall get through this afternoon together. And I will be one badge closer to complete Bee Badge domination!

LIGHTNING strikes outside.

BESSIE (CONT'D)

That was weird.

She flips to a page.

CLOSE ON: Equestrian Badge.

Intimidating music, with <horse hooves> and a terrifying <whinny>. Bessie tries to get FINGER to point to the badge, but he's too scared.

Bessie <sweats> profusely and BEADS OF SWEAT fly into customers' COFFEE CUPS.

The customers sip and frown.

She holds up Finger and talks to him.

BESSIE (CONT'D)

(to Finger) Finger, I can't go back. Not again. The horror! The horror!

FADE CUT TO:

EXT. PIPE DREAMS RANCH - DAY - **FLASHBACK**

It's Portia's birthday party, and she is obviously celebrating at a fancy ranch where girls can pretend they have their very own ponies.

Portia is giving the Bees a tour of the ranch.

PORTIA

I, like, come here all the time. All the horses would, like, totally call me by my first name. If they, like, spoke English.

Bessie and Penny are at the back of the group.

BESSIE

I thought this party was supposed to be arachnid-themed.

PENNY

I think she was joking when she said that.

BESSIE

Aw man, that would've been so much more fun.

PENNY

Who has angel food cake for their birthday? Where's the fun in that? Where's the chocolate?

PORTIA

And this is, like, the proverbial cherry on the sundae of my birthday.

PENNY

(excited) Sundae?!

Portia leaves and comes back out on a BIG WHITE HORSE with long eyelashes. Every time its TAIL swishes, it rains GLITTER on the Bees.

PORTIA

This is Madison.

The girls stare, jaw-dropped. Bessie <sneezes> from the glitter.

Beat. The girls run into the stable to get their own horses.

Bessie has a <sneezing fit> that prevents her from going into the stable. When she recovers, she is alone.

She looks into the stable. From the darkness, TWO RED EYES stare back at her. A DARK HORSE emerges, with a violent look in its eyes. It <snorts> smoke, and menacingly <hooves> the ground.

Bessie slowly backs away, when two hands from out frame reach out and grab her.

WORKER JOE

(friendly) You better catch up to your little friends!

INT. STABLE - CONTINUOUS

He begins to hoist her onto the horse.

CLOSE ON: Bessie's legs <kick> in fear.

CLOSE ON: Bessie's face.

He puts her on the horse and immediately, the horse <bucks>. Bessie yells as she's tossed around. In SLOW MOTION, she <flies off> the horse.

The horse sees Finger and opens his big horse jaw. He latches onto Finger and Bessie <falls> to the ground.

One of Finger's EYES is X'ED out and his mouth is trembling.

CUT BACK

INT. CAFE - SAME

Bessie is under the TABLE, <rocking> back and forth in fear, <shaking and sweating>. Bessie's mom doesn't bat an eye.

BESSIE'S MOM

See? I told you you'd find something to do.

Rocky Rhodes skates in, and immediately notices the horse badge page.

Bessie is back in her seat, eyes wide, big smile at Rocky.

ROCKY

Whoa, Bessie, nice. Many consider horses to be our evolutionary equal.

Bessie <blinks> at him blankly.

ROCKY (CONT'D)

I really admire the strength and poise of our horse brethren.

BESSIE

(stammering) I - I totally agree.

ROCKY

You know, Bessie, some people are actually afraid to ride horses.

BESSIE

(nervously) That doesn't make any sense at all. It's not like people fall off of horses all the time and hurt themselves because they're big and scary.

ROCKY

Exactly.

BESSIE

Yeah, that's why I saved this badge, because it will be so easy-peasy to earn. No prob. It's like a walk in the park.

ROCKY

On a horse. (beat) Bessie, I totally get you. You're awesome.

He skates off.

BESSIE

(worried) Oh boy.

INT. TROOP MEETING - LATER

The girls whisper as Bessie brings in an OVERHEAD PROJECTOR. As she hooks up a COMPUTER -

TROOP LEADER

Girls, we are delaying our lesson on corn husk dolls -

BESS

No!, aw man, that's not fair, etc.

TROOP LEADER

- for what I'm told is a very pertinent and special presentation. Bessie?

BESSIE

Thank you for coming. As some of you may know, I have a horse badge to earn. Easy. Of course, I could just ride a horse, but who does that help?

She shows slide one. It just says: ORPHANS.

BESSIE (CONT'D)

Does it help orphans?

SLIDE TWO: ORPHANS (crossed out).

BESSIE (CONT'D)

No. It doesn't.

SLIDE THREE: a picture of a ROCKING HORSE.

BESSIE (CONT'D)

But these can. Rocking horses.
Studies that I'm not going to prove
right now have shown that giving
rocking horses to children helps
their future.

SLIDE FOUR: FUTURE

BESSIE (CONT'D)

Community service: it solves any
problem and rights any wrong!
Lights, please.

Penny turns the lights back on. The girls are silent, bored.
The troops leader claps quietly.

Suddenly, a SEMI TRUCK beeps and <crashes> into the building.
Bessie jumps out of the truck, proud of herself.

BESSIE (CONT'D)

Alright, boys, you can unload 'em
here.

Workers begin unloading the rocking horses.

TROOP LEADER

Bessie, this is incredible! But -
you've already earned the community
service badge. (beat) Several
times.

BESSIE

Right. Which is why this is for the
horse badge!

She lifts her hands in a "ta-da!" pose.

The girls <laugh> at her.

PORTIA

Oh come on, we all earned that at
my super rad birthday party. Get
with the program.

TROOP LEADER

The Equestrian Badge can only be
earned by riding a horse. Silly
Bessie.

Bessie slumps, worried and embarrassed.

BESSIE

(nervous) Yeah, yeah, I knew that.
I was just testing you. One real
horseback ride, coming right up!