

MR. TODD & JUDY

(Mealworm Confession)

PLEASE NOTE: The Actor playing STEVE also doubles as MR. TODD.

Mr. Todd’s Classroom.

JUDY MOODY is likeable; has a great capacity to be kind and thoughtful; can be moody; smart; high emotional IQ; wears her emotions on her sleeve; can be tough on herself; has a habit of being too boisterous in class; feuds with her brother Stink but loves him; strong-willed; wants to get famous; close to her Dad; can be a bit bossy; and likes to tell Stink what to do.

MR. TODD loves being a teacher; book smart; his students respect him and like his sense of humor; can be a disciplinarian when he needs to be; all the kids’ favorite teacher; looks out for his students’ best interests; really likes Judy although she can be disruptive at times.

Mr. Todd’s class is studying mealworms. Judy tries to show how smart she is by being the first student to answer all of Mr. Todd’s questions. When Judy raises her hand to answer a question, she forgets that her mealworm is sitting on the eraser of her pencil. Her mealworm flies off the pencil and onto her classmate, Jessica. Although it was actually Judy’s fault, Mr. Todd punishes Jessica for screaming by giving her a white card, given to students who misbehave in class. Judy fails to speak up and admit to Mr. Todd that her mealworm caused Jessica to scream.

In this scene, Judy is beginning to feel guilty about getting Jessica in trouble. She decides to go to Mr. Todd to tell him the truth that it was her mealworm that caused Jessica to scream.

MR. TODD

Judy? Why aren't you at gym with the rest of the class?

JUDY

Mr. Todd, I have something to tell you.

MR. TODD

What is it?

JUDY

In Science? Just before? It was my mealworm. My fault.

MR. TODD

Your mealworm? I don't understand.

JUDY

You see, I let my mealworm climb to the top of my pencil. When I raised my hand to answer a question, my mealworm flew off my pencil and landed on Jessica. It was my fault. Not Jessica's.

MR. TODD

(MR. TODD pauses. JUDY isn't sure how he's taking the news.)

Thank you for coming to me with the truth. I know it's not easy to confess.

JUDY

Mr. Todd?

MR. TODD

Yes, Judy?

JUDY

Does this mean I'm getting another white card?

MR. TODD

I'm afraid so. You've got to pay better attention in class.

JUDY

Mr. Todd? Is there a word for somebody who gets famous for all the wrong reasons?

MR. TODD

Yes. The word is infamous.

JUDY

Infamous, huh? Not the same as getting famous, is it?

MR. TODD

No, not exactly.

(Trying to cheer her up.)

Hey, I know! Since you have to stay after school with me today, I'll find something useful for you to do. You can start by cleaning out the fish tank.

JUDY

Sounds smelly.

MR. TODD

Holy mackerel!

(Enjoying his bad joke.) (MR. TODD exits.)

It's a real stinkeroo!

JUDY

(To the audience.)

I have to clean a fish tank after school! Super yuck!

END OF SIDE.