

STEVE & STINK

(Sneaker Contest)

The School Gymnasium, the site of “The All-Time, World’s Worst, Super-Stinky Sneaker Contest.”

STINK is Judy’s younger brother, fun-loving, excitable, active, independent, a rough and tumble boy, although he looks up to Judy, he can be a source of irritation to her, has an unusually good sense of smell, and often speaks before he thinks.

STEVE works at NASA as an official smeller and is a judge for “The All-Time, World’s Worst, Stinky-Sneaker Contest.” He is very intelligent and down-to-earth, also fun-loving, enthusiastic, serious about being a judge, likes to be “punny,” an educator at heart, a good listener, take charge, and proud of his work at NASA.

Stink enters his school’s “All-Time World’s Worst Super Stinky Sneaker Contest.” He has spent weeks making his sneakers as stinky as possible. He arrives at school for the Contest only to discover that it’s going to be canceled because one of the judges has called in sick.

In this scene, Judy meets Steve in the gym before Stink arrives. Based on what Judy tells Steve about Stink’s uncanny ability to identify strange smells, Steve is convinced that Stink would make a great replacement judge. If Stink accepts, it means that he would no longer be allowed to enter his own sneakers in the Contest. Nonetheless, he’s excited by the idea of being a judge so he can impress Steve with his super smelling ability.

STEVE

And you must be Stink. My name is Mr. Moore and I work at NASA as a professional smeller. I was supposed to judge the contest today but...

STINK

(Interrupting STEVE. STINK can't believe what he's just heard.)

Wait. What?!?

You smell stuff? You mean like that's your job?

STEVE

That's my job! At NASA, they call me the "Master Sniffer."

STINK

Awesome!!! At school, they call me "The Nose." I want to be a professional smeller when I grow up. Just like you. But, my sister told me that's not a thing. What kind of stuff do you smell?

STEVE

Anything that goes on-board the Space Shuttle.

STINK

The Space Shuttle??

STEVE

Why, sure! Up in space, if something really stinks you can't just open a window.

STINK

What do you have to do to be a professional smeller?

STEVE

(Laughs at the thought.)

Well, there are certain rules. You definitely can't have allergies. And you have to pass a test. And I just heard that you recently passed the "Way Official Moody Stink-A-Thon." And I think you would be the perfect replacement to join our panel of judges.

(Gives STINK a beat for the offer to sink in.)

STINK

Me? A judge? For real?

(STINK isn't sure what to do. He paces back and forth, looking at the table full of sneakers and then back at STEVE and JUDY.)

STEVE

It sounds to me like you've got a special talent. You and I will judge each sneaker on a scale of 1 to 4, with 4 being the stinkiest. What do you say?

STINK

I'd say... Let the sniffing begin!

(STINK sniffs his first sneaker.)

Hmmm...smells like dirty socks with a hint of carpet.

STEVE

Very good, Stink! That's exactly what I was smelling.

STINK

But, I've smelled worse. This sneaker only gets a 1 out of 4!

STEVE

I agree! What about this next one?

STINK

(Sniffing the next sneaker)

Hmmm...burning hair...dead worm...this one is gross as gross can be.

STEVE

My boy, you've got the nose all right! Not many noses would pick up that dead worm smell.

STINK

Maybe I could have won the Golden Clothespin award...

STEVE

But this sure is way better, isn't it!

END OF SIDE.