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The Funny Bone

Characters: Chocó Bear (a black bear) and Tofu (a panda bear).

Setting: The Woods in Canada (where every animal is funny except Chocó Bear).

At Rise: Chocó Bear is on a chair in his tree home, sitting down, trying to write jokes on a piece of paper. He crumples up the paper and throws it into a wastebasket. The trashcan is full and overflowing. Tofu is sitting on Chocó Bear's desk and talking to him about wontons and egg rolls. Why, because he was raised at the woods in China, and his mother only fed him wontons and egg rolls. He became addicted and obsessed with them.

Tofu

(With a full mouth, he holds out a bowl of wontons) You know, you should really try one of these, Chocó Bear. They taste like candy and they're actually good for you.

Chocó Bear

(He is really serious about making jokes, because he **really** wants to place in the Joke-a-thon). I don't care about wontons, and I'm not eating any. (He looks at the bowl) They also look and smell super nasty. Hey, um... could you give me an idea for a joke? Pleeeaaaase.

Tofu

Uhhh, ok. let me think. Ooo oo, how about one with chickens! Like; why did the chicken cross the road?

Chocó Bear

No. There are too many jokes with chickens and stuff that crosses the road.

Tofu

How about one with lamas? Lamas are funny. (Chocó Bear shakes his head thoughtfully) Turtles? Platypus? Sheep? (Chocó Bear shakes his head again) Then what!

Chocó Bear

I have no idea. All I know is that the Joke-a-thon is the most important competition in the Woods. Hundreds of people come every year to compete for the title of the funniest animal. Everyone who places in the top three instantly gains respect from all of the animals, and that's what I need: Respect. I know that I'm

kind of infamous for not being funny, and I need to change that. I need to win the Joke-a-thon. (Sighs) Let's go outside and practice our jokes.

Scene 2 of The Funny Bone

Characters: Chocó Bear and Tofu.

Setting: In the Woods in Canada outside Chocó Bear's house. It is a sunny day.

At Rise: Chocó Bear and Tofu just get out of the house and are trying to decide what they should do. They are standing on Chocó Bear's front lawn, which is lined with small pebbles.

Chocó Bear

How about we go over our jokes that we might use for the Joke-a-thon? I could definitely use some practice and get some fresh ideas.

Tofu

How about we talk about egg rolls and how delicious they are.

Chocó Bear

I'm thinking jokes.

Tofu

Oh yeah? Well I am thinking egg rolls and wontons.

Chocó Bear

(Dangerously) **Jokes.**

Tofu

Okay, okay. No need to get upset.

Chocó Bear

(Rolls his eyes) I'll go first. Why did the bubble gum cross the road?

Tofu

(Sarcastically) I wonder why.

Chocó Bear

To get to the other side!

Tofu

Fifty wontons says that you got from Woogle, (the Wood's Google).

Chocó Bear

No! You were there when I looked it up!

Tofu

Whatever. Why do gorillas have big nostrils?

Chocó Bear

(Shrugs) I don't know.

Tofu

Because they have big fingers!

Chocó Bear

Hey! That was pretty good! I never knew that you were funny.

Tofu

(Cross arms/replies smugly) I know. I'm actually pretty good at coming up with jokes when my mind is not on food.

Chocó Bear

Oh.

Tofu

Soooo... what about those 50 wontons you owe me.

Chocó Bear

I don't owe you any wontons! I didn't even take the bet about the joke on the internet.

Tofu

Fine. Hater. (Tofu starts walking away and Chocó Bear grabs him by the shirt collar to bring him back)

Chocó Bear

(Exasperated) Okay okay. I'll get you your dumb wontons. Just stay here for a sec.

Tofu

(Smiles and puts fists in the air like superman) To the Sushi Shop!

Chocó Bear

I just have one more joke that I thought of.

Tofu

Go ahead.

Chocó Bear

What do you call a judge with no thumbs? (Pause)

Justice fingers!

Tofu

(Stare at Chocó Bear for about ten seconds then fall down laughing, stay on the floor, and emphasize that) **That**, (pause) was the worst joke I have ever heard. (Laugh some more then stand up) Dude, you must have lost your funny bone or somethin'.

Chocó Bear

(Wide eyes) You know what? You might just be right! I could have lost it or maybe even broke it in an accident!

Tofu

(Smiles and puts fists in the air like superman) To the Doctor!

Scene 3 of The Funny Bone

Characters: Chocó Bear, Marsh Mello (the doctor), Jo Mato (the anesthesiologist) and Tofu.

Setting: Woods Hospital: a huge state-of-the-art facility complete with the latest technology. The outside is ivory colored with an insignia of a cross inside a heart on the door.

At Rise: Chocó Bear is going to the doctor's office prepping for surgery to insert a funny bone. Marsh Mello is showing Chocó Bear his X-ray.

Marsh Mello

(Shaking his head while reading Chocó Bear's chart) Wow Chocó Bear! You sure are one of a kind. Born without a funny bone. This is a story for the Woods Times. Listen, are you sure you want to go through with this? It's a very risky surgery.

Chocó Bear

Yes doc, I wanna to go through with this. It's the only thing that will make people respect me. And it will give me a shot at winning the Woods Idol Joke-a-thon.

Marsh Mello

Ok then. Jo Mato will be right with you to put a gas mask on so there will be no pain.

Jo Mato

(Jo Mato walks through the door) Hi there. Are you ready? I need you to relax as much as you can, and you shouldn't resist the overwhelming power to sleep.

Chocó Bear

Ok.

Jo Mato

(Puts a clear gas mask on Chocó Bear's head with a nozzle connected to a tank. Chocó Bears eyes close and he goes into a light sleep)

Marsh Mello

(Puts his hand out) I need the funny bone for the transplant.

Jo Mato

(Quickly hands Marsh Mello the funny bone)

Marsh Mello

(Opens a little hole on the inside of Chocó Bear's elbow to put the funny bone in. Then he inserts the funny bone into its socket and closes the hole) Yes! We did it! Just think... he had a 75% chance of breaking that funny bone, and it was our last one!

Jo Mato

(Gives Marsh Mello a high five, letting go of Chocó Bears arm)

Chocó Bear

(His hand falls; arm extending and hitting the edge of the operating table, snapping the funny bone)

Marsh Mello

Nooooo! (Picks up the arm) The bone broke before it had a chance to take its affect and make him funnier!!

Jo Mato

We have to tell him that the transplant was a success, or he could sue us!

Marsh Mello

(Holds his head and rubs his temples) I know, I know. Ugghghhhh. Let's wake him up and tell him that the operation was a success, but that he doesn't have to pay due to a government grant. (Sigh) Well, here goes nothin'. (Takes the gas mask off of Chocó Bear face)

Chocó Bear

(Waking up thinking he has a new funny bone)
Hey Marsh Mello, how was the transplant?

Marsh Mello

Uhhhhh. (Glances quickly at Jo Mato and smiles at Chocó Bear)
Yes, it was a complete success. You also don't have to pay. The government gave us a grant to use on a special patient, and we picked you.

Chocó Bear

Hey, thanks. (Raises his arms in a silent cheer) Oh yeah! I'm funny now. Hey, could you call Tofu in?

Marsh Mello

Sure. (Walks over to a desk with a phone. Picks it up and dials a number. Talks into a phone that is connected to the speakers in the waiting room) Tofu, please come to room 207. Tofu, please come to room 207.

Tofu

(Walks into the room a little while later with a smile) You have to tell me a new joke. I bet it'll be hilarious!

Chocó Bear

Ok. (Thinks for a while) How can you get four suits for a dollar?

Tofu

(Shrugs) How?

Chocó Bear

Buy a deck of cards!

Tofu

HAHAHAHAHAHA!!! (Holds his stomach) That was so funny!

Chocó Bear

I know, and all thanks to my new funny bone.

Tofu

(Looks at his watch) Oh my gosh! The Joke-a-thon starts in half an hour!

Chocó Bear

Then let's go! (Both run out the room)

Scene 4 of The Funny Bone

Characters: Chocó Bear, Tofu, Simon Owl, Paula Armadillo, and Randy Jackal

Setting: The Woods Idol Joke-a-thon. The three judges are sitting behind a desk with the Woods Idol Joke-a-thon engraved on the front.

At Rise: Chocó Bear is one of the last contestants at the Joke-a-thon, and is the next up. The only one following him was Tofu, who was eating a bag of egg rolls.

Simon Owl

NEXT! (Chocó Bear walks on stage) What's your name?

Chocó Bear

Chocó Bear.

Simon Owl

(Writes Chocó Bears name down on a paper) Gotcha. Say your joke.

Chocó Bear

How do you get a lama on the roof? (Pause) Tell him that the drinks are on the house. (Paula Armadillo and Randy Jackal crack up)

Paula Armadillo

(After laughing for a while, wipes off her tears and puts her hands up) That was HILARIOUS! I give it a ten.

Randy Jackal

It was really good! I give that a ten as well.

Simon Owl

(Frowns and crosses arms) The joke was ok, but not **great**. Those are really easy to come by. (Grins) I give it a nine. Great job Chocó Bear.

Chocó Bear

(Jumps and punches his fist in the air) YES!!

Simon Owl

Listen, this is the best score that anyone has received all day, and there is only one person left in line for the Joke-a-thon. So far, you're in first place.

Chocó Bear

Wahoo! (Dancing around in a circle) Go Chocó, go Chocó, go Chocó, go Chocó.

Simon Owl

(Looks annoyed) I know that your joke was good, but dancing on the stage? Really? **Get off.**

Chocó Bear

(Blushes) Oh. Sorry. (Walks off the stage)

Simon Owl

NEXT! (Tofu drops the bag of egg rolls that he was eating and walks on stage) What's your name?

Tofu

Tofu.

Simon Owl

Wait a sec. (Writes Tofu's name down on a piece of paper). Ok, say your joke.

Tofu

Why did Tomato blush? (Pause)

Because it saw Mr. Green Pea over the fence! (All of the judges crack up, and Randy falls from his seat onto the floor, clutching his belly while on the verge of crying)

Paula Armadillo

That was great! Ten! I give it a Ten! (Laughs some more)

Randy Jackal

(Sits back up on his chair and talks while laughing) Whew. (Points to Tofu) Funniest guy in the Woods right here! I give that joke a ten!

Simon Owl

(Serious) **That**, was the best joke that I have heard in my **life**. It was also the first time that I actually laughed at one of the contestants of the Joke-a-thon. I give it a ten. Congratulations Tofu, I think you have just won.

Tofu

(Stares at the judges in amazement, then does a little dance around in a circle) Go Tofu, go Tofu, go Tofu, go Tofu. Uh huh, go Tofu, go Tofu, that's right.

Simon Owl

(Sighs) What is it with animals and their little dances? Your joke was great, **now get off**.

Tofu

(Rolls his eyes and walks over to Chocó Bear) Dude, I won!

Chocó Bear

(High fives Tofu) That's awesome, and it means that I got second!
Wow, I gotta thank the doctor for this.

Tofu

Yeah, let's go.

Scene 5 of The Funny Bone

Characters: Chocó Bear, Tofu, and Marsh Mello

At rise: Chocó Bear and Tofu are at the doctors, and Chocó Bear is thanking Marsh Mello for the funny bone. Jo Mato called in sick.

Chocó Bear

(Shaking Marsh Mello's hand violently, and doesn't stop) Doctor, thank you so much for the amazing funny bone!! I got second place in the Joke-a-thon because of it.

Marsh Mello

Ohhhhh, yaaaaa. About that...

Chocó Bear

(Stops shaking the doctor's hand, looking confused) About what?

Marsh Mello

(Looks intensively at Chocó Bear) Chocó Bear... you don't actually have a funny bone. Jo Mato accidentally broke it when he and I were high fiving about our so called "success". (Chocó Bear and Tofu stare at Marsh Mello in amazement)

Tofu

Chocó Bear doesn't have a funny bone?!

Chocó Bear

I don't have a funny bone?

Marsh Mello

Yep.

Chocó Bear

(Pauses in-between words) Then I'm actually funny?

Marsh Mello

(Smiles) Yep.

Chocó Bear

Wow! I'm actually funny. (Chuckles to himself) I'm actually funny. I guess that I don't need help being funny after all. Thank you doctor, for helping me find my Funny.

Marsh Mello

Anytime.

Chocó Bear

(Salutes Marsh Mello with two fingers and walks out the door with Tofu)