

1. ON THE RIVERBANK – EXT. DAY

Woodsy, Rosie, and Scoutbadger spot Martis all alone by the river (*sitting on the trunk over the water*). They walk over to him.

1. WOODSY

(Discreetly to the other two) There he is!
Now it's up to you two!!

Woodsy gives Scoutbadger the basket and gestures for him to go ahead. *But Rosie and Scoutbadger don't dare.*

2. ROSIE

(Whispering) Go on, you first!

3. SCOUTBADGER

(Whispering) No, you!!

Fed up, Woodsy shoves them both forward, <clearing his throat> so Martis will turn around.

4. WOODSY

(clearing his throat) Ahum!

5. SCOUTBADGER / ROSIE (AT THE SAME TIME)

(Embarrassed) We've been looking for you everywhere, Martis! / We wanted to talk to you...

6. SCOUTBADGER

Yeah, and also, we brought you a snack...

They both turn to Woodsy and bite their lips. They don't know what to say. Woodsy gives them a look to encourage them to go on.

7. SCOUTBADGER/ROSIE

(Sheepish) We're sorry for earlier...

8. MARTIS

(Shrugs) Don't worry about it, it's history now... *(Frowns)* But if I have another laughing fit, will you make fun of me again?

9. ROSIE

(Admitting, ashamed) Uh... It's pretty hard to restrain ourselves when... *(Then seeing Woodsy glaring at her)* *All right, we won't make fun of you, promise!!*

10. SCOUTBADGER

(Sincere) Yeah! Promise!

Scoutbadger and Rosie mime zipping their mouths shut in unison. Martis grins shyly.

11. WOODSY

(Clears his throat) OK, that's over! Can we play log-jumping now!?

12. SCOUTBADGER & ROSIE

Yeah!!

Woodsy turns to Martis.

13. WOODSY

Martis?!

14. MARTIS

(Hesitates for a moment, then resigned) All right. If you want.

He gets up and half-heartedly joins the others...

2. IN THE CLEARING – EXT. DAY

Scoutbadger, Woodsy, and Martis are sitting in a semi-circle, finishing off the raspberries, while Rosie sets off, gymnast-style, to jump over one, then two, then three large logs, set up in a line, as if she were swinging her legs over one side of a pommel horse. On her last jump, she tries to land with her feet together, but loses her balance a little.

15. WOODSY

(Admiring) Nice jumping!

16. SCOUTBADGER

(Cheerful) You're kidding, right! Hahaha, she almost face-planted!

Woodsy is about to laugh, but calms himself down again:

17. WOODSY

(whispering to Scoutbadger) We agreed no jokes!!

Scoutbadger abruptly falls silent. Martis, cross-legged with his chin in his hands, <sighs>. Scoutbadger adopts a serious expression.

18. SCOUTBADGER

(loudly, to Rosie) Yeah, nice jumping, *(he adds for Woodsy)* for a numbskull!

Woodsy <giggles> then gets a grip on himself. Martis gets up and stands in front of the logs: it's his turn.

19. WOODSY

(Encouraging) Go for it, Martis!!

Martis half-heartedly launches himself over the logs. He jumps incredibly well and finishes with a pirouette, much better than Rosie did it. He goes back over to his friends, beaming.

20. MARTIS

(Kind and delighted) Ah, it's good to give my tail a little shake!

The other three <giggle>. Martis freezes. Troubled, Woodsy purses his lips.

21. WOODSY

(Encouraging him) You know, you can laugh with us if you want, Martis...

22. MARTIS

(Uncomfortable) Yeah, I know. But I don't really want to...

23. WOODSY

Why not?

24. MARTIS

I'm scared you'll make fun of me again.

Woodsy looks troubled. Rosie and Scoutbadger look at each other, ashamed.

25. SCOUTBADGER

(Feeling bad) I'm sorry, this is all my fault... I shouldn't have made fun of you and said your laugh was weird.

26. ROSIE

(Acknowledging her fault) It's my fault, too. I said I wouldn't want to have your laugh... But it's not true!! Your laugh is great...

27. WOODSY

(Approving) Yeah, your laugh is perfect!

Martis smiles at them, touched. Scoutbadger walks over to him and touches his shoulder.

28. SCOUTBADGER

And most importantly, it's yours!!

29. ROSIE

(Kind) No one's gonna wanna steal it from you, that's for sure!

Martis reacts. Rosie catches herself:

30. ROSIE

But we love you just the way you are!

31. WOODSY

(Adding to make it clear) Laugh and all!

32. MARTIS

Thanks, guys, that's nice to hear.

This time Martis gives him an open, confident smile.

33. SCOUTBADGER

(Being a smart Alec) Like your laugh!

Rosie elbows him and glares. But Martis smiles. **Woodsy goes and stands at the start of the jumping course.**

34. WOODSY

(Cutting them off, upbeat) My turn!! Watch carefully, you're gonna be blown away!

Woodsy takes a run up and jumps over the first log, then the second, but fails to jump over the third, and **falls flat on his face.**

35. SCOUTBADGER & ROSIE

OOOOH!!!

36. MARTIS

You OK, Woodsy?

All the others can see is his rear-end sticking up over the log.

37. WOODSY

(Muffled voice) Yep, all good, just a minor technical problem...

Martis bursts out laughing again, as Woodsy's rear end wriggles about.

38. MARTIS

(Hysterical laughter) BAAhA-heeeee-BAHA-heeee-BAA!!!

Rosie can't stop herself from laughing along with him. She laughs so hard that her laugh is punctuated by little snorts (like a pig).

39. ROSIE

Haha-SnOrt-HAHAHA-SnoRoRt!!!

Scoutbadger starts guffawing as well, and his laugh sounds like a donkey whinnying!!

40. SCOUTBADGER

(Hysterical laughter) Haha-heeeehaw-
HAHA-heeehaw!!!

Woodsy comes back over to them, flabbergasted by what he's hearing:

41. MARTIS/ROSIE/SCOUTBADGER

BAAhA-heeeee-BAHA-heeee-BAA / Haha-
SnOrt-HAHAHA-SnoRoRt / Haha-
heeeehaw-HAHA-heeehaw!!!

He starts laughing too, and his laughter sounds like a series of little hiccups.

42. WOODSY

(Hysterical laughter) HAAhA-hic-hic-hic-
HAHAHA-hic!!

Curled up on the ground, the children stop for a moment:

43. SCOUTBADGER

We actually all lose our heads a little when
we get laughing!

44. MARTIS

Of course we do, that's why it's called
laughing your head off!

And the four friends **start laughing again**, while all around them, insects make a bolt
for it...

/THE END