

Unhealthy Friendship

Characters:

AIDEN
JEREMY

Props: ice cream cone; soda; textbook; candy bar

Costumes: exercise clothes for Aiden

Creative Note: Two guys are having a conversation about getting back in shape. One guy longs to be in shape like he was during the football season. The other is happy being lazy.

(A young man, AIDEN, is doing sit-ups while holding a large textbook. He does a few before his friend, JEREMY, enters. JEREMY is eating an ice cream cone and drinking a large soda.)

JEREMY: What are you doing?

AIDEN: *(straining between sit-ups)* Working out.

JEREMY: And the textbook?

AIDEN: Couldn't . . . find . . . any . . . weights.

JEREMY: Oh.

JEREMY: *(Licking his fingers)* Why are you working out? You never work out.

(AIDEN stops. He is out of breath.)

AIDEN: That's a good question, man. Have you looked at us lately? I mean, have you really looked at what we've become?

JEREMY: *(slurping his drink, then burping loudly)* I know you look stupid doing sit-ups with a math book.

AIDEN: *(standing up)* I'm serious, Jeremy. Ever since football season ended, we've completely let ourselves go.

JEREMY: Um . . . That was the plan, right? We agreed that we've had to work out for football since junior high. It's our senior year, football's over . . . time to get fat and lazy! *(takes a huge bite of ice cream and washes it down with soda)*

AIDEN: Yeah, well, we've managed to be pretty successful at that.

JEREMY: I know, right? Man, it feels great to be good at something!

AIDEN: Well, you're good at putting a hurting on that ice cream cone, I can tell you that.

JEREMY: No kidding. I'm a lot better at eating than I was at football. I think I have found my calling in life . . .

AIDEN: You're sick.

JEREMY: *(rubbing stomach, baby-talking it)* Hey, there little cutie-wootie. You're going to be a big boy someday! Yes you will! Yes you will! You cute, round . . .

AIDEN: Dude, I'm serious. I'm tired of not being able to wear any of my clothes.

JEREMY: *(whipping out a candy bar from his pocket)* Then buy a bigger size. Duh!

AIDEN: Don't you feel guilty at all for undoing all that hard work?

JEREMY: *(gazing lovingly at the candy bar)* Nope.

AIDEN: Not even the least bit?

JEREMY: *(licking lips, eyes bulging)* No way.

AIDEN: OK, you're starting to freak me out.

JEREMY: *(takes a huge bite of candy bar)* I don't feel guilty at all, my friend. In fact, I'm in milk chocolate, peanut buttery, nougaty heaven.

AIDEN: Nougaty heaven?

JEREMY: *(licking chocolate off fingers)* That's right, baby! Nougaty heaven! Whoo!

AIDEN: *(suddenly very puzzled)* Speaking of, what is nougat, anyway?

JEREMY: *(looking at his candy bar)* You know, I've never thought of it. Is it a vegetable?

AIDEN: *(still puzzled)* A mineral maybe?

JEREMY: *(examining candy bar)* Is it naturally occurring? Is there a nougat plant? A nougat bush?

AIDEN: *(reaching to examine the candy bar)* Has to be a synthetic.

JEREMY: *(slaps Aiden's hand very seriously)* It's all fun and games 'til someone touches the chocolate. *(calming down)* Hey, you know what? I don't know what nougat is, and I don't care. All I know is that it's delicious. If I could bathe in it, I would. I wish my bed were made of nothing but light, fluffy, soul-satisfying nougat.

AIDEN: *(staring in disbelief)* OK, well, listen. You have fun in nougat-land. Me? I'm tired of feeling sluggish all the time. I'm tired of my clothes not fitting. I've been lazy long enough. So I'm getting back in the gym. I'm hitting the track again. I'm going to work to undo all the bad we've done. I want to get back to where we were. I want to be healthy again.

JEREMY: Not me, bro. I'm lovin' it just the way it is. But best of luck to you. Hope it works out. *(finishing drink)* Get it? I hope your working out works out.

AIDEN: Yeah, I get it.

(JEREMY leaves. AIDEN goes back to doing sit-ups)

(The End)