

Clown It Up: Whose da Strongest?

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“Ohmygawd, ohmygawd! We gotta do the fun house! Oh! The ferris wheel! We can see everything! OOOOOH! Cotton candy! I want two big sticks of it! Oh oh oh oh! How about-”

Lily sighed, but kept up a small smile. Her little sister was having the time of her life. It was best not to rain on her parade. It wasn't often that they got to do things like this.

The carnival had finally come back to town, and little ten-year-old Kaley was ecstatic. She just loved carnivals, circuses, fairs, whatever else in between. It was always a time to have fun, play games, eat super fatty foods, and more! She looked forward to these every year.

Lily knew that well. The nineteen-year-old had to hold Kaley's hand tightly so she didn't just burst off in a sprint toward the next thing that caught her eye. It was exhausting to say the least.

Then again, it was still nice. Ever since she started college, the two had been drifting apart. They still saw each other, but Lily had her own life, friends, relationship, and work. In fact, she couldn't help but let her mind wander off just a moment, thinking about that upcoming paper in class she had to finish.

Yet, Lily knew she needed this. Kaley needed this. They both needed this.

“Easy there. You're gonna yank my arm off,” Lily lightly teased.

Kaley huffed, blushing. “I'm not gonna run off. I just wanna do everything with you. You're always so down and sad. That stuff will cheer you right up!”

“Heh, ya think?”

“Mhm!” The girl nodded hard. “It's like college is sucking the life out of you!”

Well, that isn't exactly wrong, Lily sighed, rubbing her face. All the work was exhausting. She cleared her throat, trying to look a bit livelier. “Okay then, what do you wanna-”

Kaley was gone... or at least, out of her immediate sight. Lily turned around to find the young girl behind her now, looking intensely at something.

The sister was eyeing a carnival game, a strongman game at that. It's tower rose high into the air, a large mallet and carnival barker near. However, what caught Lily's eye the most, and what she assumed was the same for her sister, was the wall of large stuffed animals of all shapes and colors.

She turned around and looked at her sister, a fierce, determined glint in her eyes shining through now. "I want one of those!"

Lily chuckled. "Oh? Aren't you a little old for one of those?"

"Nope!" Kaley shook her head fast. "Na-ah! I want a stuffed bear, and I'm gonna win it!"

"How exactly?"

Kaley huffed and flexed her small, tiny, arms. "I'm super strong, sis! I've been training every day with mom to be super strong! I'm gonna be strong, just like you and mom."

Lily fidgeted, a small flashback playing out in her mind. However, she gave a quick shake to the head and threw it out. "Well, have at it. You try, Miss Atlas."

The younger sister gave her another huff and hurried over to the carny. Lily followed slowly behind, watching from a distance at first. Kaley excitedly talked to the worker, who snickered as he handed her the mallet.

"-Now, you swing that hammer real good now! You don't wanna screw this up!" He chuckled as Lily walked up.

Kaley took a deep breath and gripped the mallet as hard as she could. She began to lift up on the rod... and nearly fell backwards when it was only a few inches off the ground. She still swung... but didn't even make the lever budge.

The carny laughed, and the young girl blushed deeply, embarrassment slowly filling her. She looked at Lily, fidgeting. "Umm... could you... could you do this?"

"What happened to Miss Atlas?"

"Pl-pleeeeeease?" Kaley looked serious. This wasn't a joking matter it seemed.

"Oh..." Lily glanced at the mallet and then at the tower. "I... I'm not sure if I'm strong enough. I mean, I don't think it's possible for me to-"

“No! You are super strong, sis!” Kaley insisted, hands tightening into fists. “You can do it! You can do anything... like win me a stuffed bear!”

“... okay. Okay, I’ll give it a shot.” Lily sighed and turned to the broker. “Alright, I’ll give it a shot. How much?”

“Oh, just two dollars for this, if you don’t mind.” He smiled as before when she handed him the money. However, once pocketing it, he gave off a small laugh. “Good luuuuck~.”

The older sister said nothing, choosing to ignore him. She took hold of the mallet, having a much easier time in comparison, and took a deep breath herself. *Let’s just do this.*

Positioning herself, she released her breath and swung the mallet with all her might.

BAM! Mallet smashed down on the lever and connected with the puck. The puck... moved about an inch or two before falling back down to place. It barely moved compared to Kaley’s “try”.

Lily felt her heart drop. In the background, she could hear laughter and “bring your boyfriend or dad around next time if you want to win.” She could sense her entire head was turning red from embarrassment.

But that wasn’t the worst feeling in it all. She looked at Kaley, who just stared. She showed no signs of disappointment, anger, or sadness. She didn’t need to say or show anything for her big sis to know how she felt.

“I’m sorry, Kaley,” Lily quietly said, voice almost drowned out by the sounds of the carnival. “I tried.”

“It’s okay,” Kaley replied, just as quiet. “You wanna get some cotton candy?” The older sister nodded and dropped the mallet beside the game.

The two started to walk away. Cotton candy would make things better. It always did in their family. That would be the end of it. They would soon feel better and-

“Pfffft, not gonna even try again? Oh well, guess a couple of losers like you didn’t want to try and win a prize today. Typical.”

Kaley froze up. Her face twitched and everything started to crumble, tears appearing in her eyes.

Lily froze up, her face even twitching as well. However, the feeling was a bit different.

What... what the hell was that?! Her breathing slowed as she took deeper and deeper breaths. That couldn't stop her shaking though. Her hands tightened, clenching into firm fists at her sides.

But that wasn't just it either. As her hands clenched, they seemed to grow. They slowly swelled and swelled as a white substance appeared around them, glossy and thick. The material covered them all before solidifying into soft, plush leather. Curiously, she now sported thick, four-fingered gloves now.

"...sis?" Kaley nudged at Lily. The younger of the two noticed the gloves. This would get a bit... silly if things went on. "Are you okay?"

However, Lily wasn't listening. She ignored the nudge as she spun around and stormed back towards the barker. **Crack. Crack.** Her sandals brightened to an intense fire engine red as they switched into shoes. **Plop. Plop.** Her soles stretched several inches forward as the material turned to leather. **Squeak. Squeak.** Soon, the top cap expanded out into a big, round-ish shape, her footwear on par with that of a clown.

Squeak. Squeak. Lily charged right up to the barker and looked him straight in the eye. "I want another shot, right *now*."

The barker turned to face her and smirked, a small chuckle leaving his mouth. "Sure, more than happy to let you try." He held out his hand and Lily slapped a big bill in his hand, a bit hard with her gloved mitts. He didn't seem to notice, just saying, "Good luck, scrawny."

Lily twitched, her body quivering for a moment. She smiled. "**Ah don't need luck ta win.**"

The barker flinched, stepping back as she stepped away. She walked two feet, and her body trembled again. She grew a foot in height, a lot more of her arms, legs, and stomach shown in her now non-fitting attire. She snatched up the mallet and lifted it, her arms expanding to a broader, fitter shape.

She turned her attention to the strongman game, eyeing it up. *Mess with me, huh? Show me up, huuuuuh? Disappoint mah lil' sis? Well, I'm gonna have to make an example outta you!*

She got into position in front of the game. She took a deep breath and clenched down on that mallet tightly. Her arms shook intensely, goosebumps spreading. Then, her arms swelled, biceps and forearms increasing with muscle. Scrawny to average to fit in no time flat.

The trembling rocketed up her arms and under her shirt, which seemed to shake for a moment. Then across her white t-shirt, bright red polka dots appeared all over. The sight made the barker do a double take, blinking and rubbing his eyes several times.

“You go, big bro!” Kaley cheered.

Lily flinched and looked back. Her little sister was jumping up and down excited, giving her big thumbs up. “You totally got this! Some dem your big muscles, bro!”

Big bro... Lily glanced at her arms and gloves. She smiled. *Heh, might as well~*. They gave Kaley a thumbs up as a shiver rocketed through their jean shorts.

Well, shorts for a moment. The leg holes dropped all the way down to their new shoes and even a bit more. Denim turned smoother and softer. Blue became a bright green, an alternating pattern of purple diamonds appearing over them as well.

Lily turned back towards the lever and smirked. If it could sweat, it would be right now as the transformee repositioned themselves. Their legs quivered as muscle mass expanded, slowly expanding their bottom limbs thicker, with much more powerful thighs and calves.

They took a deep breath, holding it as they raised the mallet up and behind them. Their hand grip strengthened as the arms swelled again. Their biceps were positively beefy and big, easily able to compete with any real strongman.

Pheeeeeewwwww... They released their breath, breasts deflating and leaving their chest flat. Their bra vanished as they took another deep breath, steadying themselves to be ultra sure. Their chest expanded, but not as big. The mounds on their chest were wider, squarish, and tough, befitting their burly shoulders and arms. They were pecs anyone could be proud of.

Pheeeewwwww. Instead of their chest deflating, something inflated. Something in their baggy pants swelled. Swelled quite a bit, pushing against the zipper.

Now! Lily snorted and swung. Swung with all his might.

The mallet hammer came down and smashed that lever. **CRACK!** The aluminum lever cracked and broke off. Vibrations from the impact surged up Lily’s hands throughout his entire body. His skin turned white, VERY white. Very snow white and rubbery, his skin having a strange gloss to it as the change covered every inch of him.

However, no attention was given to that. The puck went flying when the lever struck. It rocketed up the tower with gusto, quickly reaching that bell. Reaching it and then proceeding to smash through it, the sound blaring throughout the carnival.

The puck vanished into the sky, never to be seen again. Lily grinned. His heart raced. This strength, this power, this raw amazing energy within him. He looked at his arms, his burly, bulging arms and felt pride. It had been too long.

His grinning gave way to laughter, deep chuckles blasting from his mouth. He lifted his arms and gave them each a mighty flex, biceps bulging. **“Ha! It’s been too long boys~. Still as a strong ‘n’ amazin’ as ever~. You bros, never let me down!”**

Ooooh, he forgot how good it was to flex. It only added to that energy in it. It was hard to describe, but... there was a silly, goofy joy in it that he just loved.

It was such a silly, goofy joy that flowed through him, even in his hair. His long, blonde hair that was starting to get less long and less blonde. Even less straight as each strand and lock grew frizzily and wild. Long shrunk up to his ears, now a small, but puffy short. Blonde deepened to a powerful, fierce red.

Everything felt so right... and then seeing Kaley, her eyes ablaze with wonder and joy... that made everything even better.

The little sister clapped and clapped. “Alright! You go, big bro! You are soooo cool and big and strong! Big bro is the best!!”

Darn straight big bro is~. Lily snickered.

Then he turned his attention to his next target, the barker. That look on his face. Horror? Shock? Bafflement? Regardless, it was a delight to see that smug look gone.

Lily strutted over to him, rolling his shoulders. He grew a bit more, now towering over the puny carnies. He cleared his throat, **“So, little man, I’s believe youse got something for mah little sister over dere?”**

The barker twitched and shivered now. Regardless of that though, he nervously stood his ground. “N-n-no w-way! Th-this isn’t fair! Y-you transformed into... into that! That h-h-has t-to be cheating or something!”

Lily frowned and leaned in, purposely slowly. His face slowly shifted from soft, cuteness to something harder. Jawline became harder and squarer, his cheekbones lowered, brow thickened ever so slightly, the whole nine-yards into something far more ruggedly masculine.

Despite the more intimidating face, it was slightly undercut by a few things. One was the new hair, but then came the red circles on his white face that almost looked painted on. Then was the nose, which slowly turned red as his shoes. His nostrils sank into the tip of his nose then, as the tip inflated into a big, round ball.

His new clown nose only an inch or two from the guy's face, Lily snorted, **“Y'all callin' me a cheater now, bub? Yah wann commit to that 'ere statement, huh? Youse sayin' dat because youse an honest worker, eh? Ya, it ain't like ah'm gonna find sum tamperin' with that dere lever or nuthin', riiiiight?”**

The barker's face went pale, unimpressively so in comparison to the large clown staring him down. He looked at Kaley and weakly said, “Umm... you can pick out whatever you want, okay honey?”

Kaley cheered and charged over to the wall, snatching a bright yellow bear that was almost half her size. “I love him!”

“Heh, great pick, Kale~!” the clown brother cheered, giving her a quick clap. He shot a brief glare at the carny, and walked over to his sister. **“So, howse about a lil' lunch?”**

Kaley nodded, and the two walked off. The new clown could hear the barker mumble about nobody noticing what was happening. The words gave him a little chuckle. The silly human knew so little about clowns like him and what they could do.

The two walked on now. Lily took some time to look at his arms and feel his chest. He chuckled. ***Man, it's good ta be back and buff again~! Gotta make sum spare time in mah life to muscle and clown it on up~!***

Kaley stopped and looked at him with a big smile. “Big bro! You were suuuuper cool and amazing! Thank you so much... Lenny~.”

Lenny laughed. He missed being called that too. She reached down and ruffled her hair up. **“No-no, thank yah, lil' one! Been cooped up too much in a littl' form or far too long! Gotta let it out more often, ya know?”**

Kaley nodded. “Yeah! You were sooooo cool!” Her eyes were positively sparkling now. “I can’t wait to grow up and be super big and strong like you and mom!”

She chuckled. “Heh, I’m even practicing my big, tough clown guy voice!” She cleared her throat. “Ahem, what **does youse think’, bro? Youse and mes** are gonna take on the world and paint **dis snoozesville in cream pies!** Lenny **and Kenny, da super powered, handsome clowns, comin’ to a town near you!**”

A few passersby paused and stared at Kaley strangely, not giving Lenny a second look. The big clown guy just laughed and applauded, “**Now dat’s sum good speakin’ dere, kiddo. But, y’all got a lot to work on ands frankly, why rush it? Just enjoy life ‘n’ don’t let it blaze on by!**”

Kaley sighed and nodded, “Fiiiiine.”

“**Dat a girl!**” Lenny playfully ruffled her hair again. “**Ya know, thanks again for the fun invite! Ah was gonna probably miss this own shindig until ya mention it. Got that big paper burnin’ a hole in the back of mah mind!**”

“Sure...” Kaley nodded again.

The two walked along a little more, wandering over to the food tents, until Kaley spoke up again. “Umm... why did you help me?”

“**Hmmmm?**”

“Why did big bro come out and help me?” Kaley asked, “I thought you didn’t like being like this?”

Lenny stopped and stroked his chin. “**Well, ta tell ya the truth, big bro always liked being big bro, but mah life is so busy and stressful. There was no gosh darn time for fun with all of mah adultin’ goin’ on! Guess ah forgot what ah truly wanted until ya invited me out ‘n’ ah saw you all sad-like.**”

“...so, does this mean...”

“**Big bro Lenny is gonna be around more often when ya see me!**” Kaley lit up and applauded, holding onto her bear as best as she could. “**Gotta unwind and let this clowny strongman out more often!**”

“Now, back ta more important things: cotton candy. Y’all were sayin’ sumthang about that, right?”

Kaley’s eyes lit up brighter than they ever had. “Ah-huh, ah-huh... cotton candy eating contest?”

“Ya know it!” The two laughed and hurried off to the food stands. This sibling day was about to get even sillier and now very sugary, just the way they like it!

THE END