

SCRIPT TITLE

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EXT. AARONS' FRONT PORCH - MORNING

JESSE AARONS (12) returns from an early morning run.

He sits on a wooden chair and removes a very worn out pair of sneakers before going inside.

INT. AARONS' KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Jesse joins his mother, MARY AARONS (early 40s) and 4 SISTERS (including BRENDA) for breakfast, all talking over each other.

BRENDA

(to Jesse)

Ow, you stink! Mom, he stinks!

MARY

Stop picking on your brother and eat.

Jesse ignores his older sister, and stares at an ant crawling slowly along his placemat.

CUT TO:

INT. AARONS' KITCHEN - LATER

Jesse comes downstairs into the kitchen with his backpack, as everyone is getting ready to leave for school.

JESSE

Ok, who hid my sneakers?

MARY

Jess, you could hardly call them sneakers anymore. I threw them out.

JESSE

What? Mom!

MARY

Sorry, but I will not send any child of mine to school looking like some hobo. There's a perfectly good old pair of Brenda's, I put out for you.

Jesse turns to see a dirty pair of pink, laced sneakers sitting by the fridge.

JESSE
 These are girls' ones.

Jesse's father JACK AARONS (mid 40s) walks in with a grease-stained towel, kisses his daughters good morning.

JACK
 It's the fan belt this time, but I
 got another.
 (turns to see Jesse's
 frown)
 What's the matter?

JESSE
 There's a big race today.

JACK
 And?

JESSE
 My sneakers.

MARY
 I got a perfectly good pair for
 him.

JESSE
 These are girls' ones. I can't race
 in these.

Brenda looks over while cleaning the kitchen table.

BRENDA
 (to Jesse)
 You couldn't race in your old ones.

JACK
 He needs some new sneakers, Mary.

Mary pulls Jack aside for a private talk in the corner. Jesse hears a snippet of their talk, "we don't have the money..."

Jack walks back over to Jesse, pats him on the back.

JACK (CONT'D)
 They make 'em the same. You got
 your chores done?

JESSE
 (glumly)
 Just about to.