

MORAL SUPPORT

A Ten-Minute Comedy Duet

by
Ashley Wallace



Brooklyn Publishers, LLC

Toll-Free 888-473-8521

Fax 319-368-8011

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CAST: STEVE and THOMAS

STEVE: Finally! I figured it out.

THOMAS: Well...Don't keep me in the dark. Give me the answer.

STEVE: Fat chance! This problem took me thirty minutes to figure out.

THOMAS: But we're doing our homework together! We're supposed to share answers.

STEVE: When you asked to come over and work on our homework together, I assumed you would be actively involved in the process.

THOMAS: I helped...some.

STEVE: Oh, excuse me. I did mean to thank you for doing part of question number one. That's the only thing you've done all evening.

THOMAS: Hey, I was busy.

STEVE: Busy raiding the chips and the soft drinks! Busy looking at my baseball card collection! Busy watching television!

THOMAS: So? We got it finished, didn't we?

STEVE: We? I finished our homework. You finished all the snack food in the house.

THOMAS: I was hungry!

STEVE: Great! I've been working on our homework for the last hour and a half. Now I'm hungry and there's nothing left to eat.

THOMAS: I didn't eat that big box of Cheese Nips.

STEVE: (**sarcastically**) M-m-m! Thanks! Even the rats won't eat those. But I appreciate your generosity. Maybe you left some of Dad's diabetic cookies, too.

THOMAS: Oops!

STEVE: You finished off my dad's expensive diabetic cookies?!

THOMAS: I noticed they weren't very sweet.

STEVE: You're unbelievable!

THOMAS: If you didn't want me to have anything, why did you offer?

STEVE: I was being hospitable! Besides, I only offered you a soft drink. You took it from there.

THOMAS: Here. I have fifty cents. Would that help?

STEVE: Forget it. I don't want your money.

THOMAS: Come on, Steve. We shared all the other answers. What's the big deal with this one?

STEVE: This one was the hardest question. Instead of helping me, you watched entire sit-coms while I worked out the problems and came up with the solutions. It wasn't easy.

THOMAS: I provided moral support.

STEVE: Good! Now you have your reward for the moral support you provided me. A bunch of free answers.

THOMAS: Except for the last one?

STEVE: Except for the last one.

THOMAS: You underestimate the value of moral support. I don't think this is fair. The last question counts twice as much as the rest.

STEVE: And if I give you that one, you'll ace the assignment.

THOMAS: Why do you have such a problem with me getting 100%?

STEVE: Because I did 100% of the work. You did practically nothing.

THOMAS: I was here. I stayed here with you the whole time. I gave you plenty of moral support. That should count for something.

STEVE: Not in my book. You'd better leave, Thomas. I still have homework in another class.

THOMAS: Fine! This is the last time I'll study with you, Steve! I'll just go over to Angela's house next time.

STEVE: Hope she's well-stocked with chips and soft drinks. Sorry, but I don't think her dad carries any sugar-free desserts.

THOMAS: That's a totally uncool thing to say. If we were over at my house, you'd be welcome to anything you wanted to eat or drink.

STEVE: Well, we're not over at your house, are we? You're at my house, eating snacks meant for my family and me. I'm doing our assignment, and you're free-loading on food and homework answers. This isn't right?

THOMAS: It's just your turn, that's all. Next time we'll study at my house. I'll stuff you so full of junk food you'll have to lie down for an hour. Not that you'll mind, because you can watch all the sit-coms while I work diligently on our homework – every problem. You won't have to lift a finger. I'll simply ask for your moral support, like I gave you tonight.

STEVE: Ha! That's a laugh! You've never done anything like that in your life. You're always the recipient of everyone's hard work, but somehow, your turn never comes.

THOMAS: I think you've lost your mind! Are you calling me a slacker?

STEVE: I don't want to shock you, Thomas, but yeah, I'm calling you a slacker.

THOMAS: That's completely unfair.

STEVE: There are other terms that might be more agreeable to you, such as user, mooch, freeloader. Shall I continue?

THOMAS: Only if you're ready to fight. You're making some pretty mean accusations, Steve.

STEVE: I agree. But thank goodness you've backed up everything I've said with your behavior tonight. You free-loaded all my answers, and you didn't even leave me any decent food to eat. My mom went grocery shopping two days ago. I doubt she was planning another grocery run this soon.

THOMAS: What are you griping about? I said I'd do all the work on the next assignment. Don't you trust me?

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