

MARY MAIL TRUCK

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A sputterfly flutters aimlessly across the Carson backyard. A determined Chrissy trails close behind. As the sputterfly weaves in and out of a nearby fence, Chrissy slowly sneaks up on it. Quietly, she pulls out a small mason jar. Finally, as the sputterfly lands gently on a flower near the front of the house, Chrissy pounces! She just misses the sputterfly as it flies up and out of her reach. Sighing, she looks around for other potential prey before noticing Cory sitting patiently by the mailbox.

Driving over to Cory, Chrissy asks what he's doing. Watching the sputterfly fly away, Cory says with a knowing smile that he's waiting for a package. "It's a present that Mama and I ordered for you!" Chrissy gasps excitedly and begins asking him what it is. Cory only tells her that it has to do with her newfound love of sputterflies. "Book? Dress up? Toy?" But Cory's lips are sealed. "It's a surprise," he says. "So you'll just have to wait until it gets here."

Right on cue, Mary Mail Truck comes around the corner and turns on to the cul-de-sac. Chrissy giggles gleefully. Mary approaches the Carson kids and greets them warmly. "Well, look at this colorful duo. Something tells me it's not my award-winning personality that has you so excitedly waiting near your mailbox. Usually, it's because I've got the goods." Cory sheepishly smiles and tells Mary it *is* nice to see her. Mary thanks Cory, and then does nothing. Cory looks around uncomfortably before saying through a big grin, "But also...got any mail for us?" Mary laughs loudly. "Let's see...Carsons." A hatch opens up on Mary's side, and four envelopes come shooting out. She grabs them with her tire and then hands them to Cory. "There you go!"

Cory and Chrissy look at the envelopes disappointedly. Cory asks if she's sure she doesn't have a package for them. Mary tells Cory that she doesn't think so, but he's more than welcome to take a look himself. She opens up her back compartment where all the mail is stored. Cory roots around, but finds nothing. Chrissy pouts. Cory is confused, and tells Mary they were expecting a package today. "Hmmm...I'm sorry to disappoint," Mary says sympathetically. At that moment, Mama comes running out of the house. "Is it here? Is it here?" she calls out excitedly. Cory and Chrissy look up at her with long faces. "It's not here?" Mama asks. "Oh!" Mary says. "Maybe it's back at the post office! Would you two want to come with me and check? I just have a few deliveries I need to make along the way." Cory and Chrissy light up with excitement at the idea of helping her with her deliveries. With Mama's permission, Cory and Chrissy head out with Mary, deputized as honorary junior mail trucks.

At their first stop, Mary asks Cory and Chrissy if they'd like to deliver a package to the house's front porch. Cory and Chrissy jump at the idea. Carrying the big package, they start making their way up the driveway. About halfway up, suddenly they hear a loud, mechanical sound followed by a rumbling. They look around confused. Suddenly, Cory's eyes widen. "Sprinklers!" Cory and Chrissy dive behind a garbage can with the package right as the sprinkler system kicks on. To keep the package dry, Cory and Chrissy deftly dodge and duck their way around the sprinklers. Finally, the two make it to the porch, package intact. They let out a sigh of relief and give each other a soggy tire bump.

As the afternoon goes on, Cory and Chrissy continue to help Mary with her deliveries. They squeeze mail into an overstuffed mailbox, deliver a copy of "Accountants Weekly" to Phil, and drop off a large, mysterious package to Frannie ("Don't worry about it."). Finally, they arrive at the last house before the post office. Mary hands Cory a single envelope to be delivered. Cory casually drives over to the mailbox, pops it open, and slides in the mail. "Done!" Cory exclaims. But before Cory can close the mailbox, a gust of wind grabs the envelope and takes off with it down the street. "Ahhh!" Cory yelps. He takes off after the envelope. He zooms past Mary and Chrissy as he calls out to them. "Runaway mail!" Chrissy hops onto Mary's head, and they chase after him.

The three of them chase the letter across Bumperton Hills. The wind taunts them by keeping the envelope just out of reach. Mary lunges for the envelope as they take a sharp corner and begins to spill mail out of the back. "My mail!" Mary cries out. "Keep going! I got it!" Cory yells as he falls back. He begins scooping up the letters and packages and frantically tossing them back into Mary's cargo hold.

As they race through town square, Cory notices the post office across the way. Cory's face lights up. "I'll be right back!" he yells out as he veers off towards the post office. Confused, Mary and Chrissy continue after the envelope. Cory races into the post office and ducks into the back room. "Hey! Mail trucks only!" a postal worker cries out. "I'm honorary!" Cory responds. He rummages through a mail bin. "Found it," Cory yells as he sprints back out of the post office carrying a package.

Meanwhile, Mary is beginning to run out of energy. Chrissy reaches for the envelope, but it's too far away. Suddenly, Cory re-appears alongside them. "I found my package!" Cory exclaims. Understandably distracted, Mary half-heartedly commends Cory for his discovery. Cory hops up onto Mary's head next to Chrissy and begins enthusiastically ripping open the package. "Uh, I'm glad you found your package, Cory, but I'm not sure now is the best time to open it," Mary says. "No, it's the perfect time!" Cory calls back. He finishes opening Chrissy's present to reveal -- a sputterfly net!

Chrissy squeals excitedly about her new toy. Mary smiles up at Cory and then focuses the last of her energy on racing towards the rogue piece of mail. Cory holds the net up high and lunges towards the envelope. Stretching as hard as he can, Cory barely catches it before tumbling into the soft grass below. Mary and Chrissy cheer!

A little while later, the trio returns the envelope to its mailbox. The owner of the mailbox, Dr. Wiperglass, happens to be outside when they do. As Chrissy jumps around playing with her new net, Mary and Cory wait anxiously to see what exciting piece of mail Dr. Wiperglass has received. She opens the letter and begins reading. "What is it?" Cory leans in. Wiperglass sighs. "It's my water bill. Too bad this didn't get lost in the mail," Wiperglass chuckles as she heads back inside. Cory is speechless.

Mary starts laughing at Cory's reaction. Cory looks at her strangely, before starting to laugh too. "It's just my job to deliver the mail, Cory. I can't always promise it's going to be something good." Mary and Cory look over at Chrissy who is chasing a sputterfly with her net. Mary smiles. "But sometimes it's nice when it is," Mary concludes.