

STEVEN UNIVERSE

"Stevion"

Written By

Jay Kasten

EXT. FUNLAND ARCADE - DAY

STEVEN aggressively smashes buttons and wiggles a joystick, playing the Cookie Cat arcade game at Funland Arcade.

STEVEN

Come on...

On the screen, Cookie Cat is flying through space avoiding alien ships. CRASH! Cookie Cat is hit! A "Continue?" countdown begins on the screen, flashing the words "INSERT COIN."

STEVEN (CONT'D)

OH NO!

Steven rustles in his pocket for another quarter but pulls it out empty, aside from some lint. On the screen, the countdown reaches zero and the screen reads "GAME OVER." Cookie Cat's space ship falls from space and explodes. His home-planet family is displayed, crying.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

NOOOOOO!!!!!!

Steven falls to his knees and bangs at the arcade game, rueing the cruel fates. MR. SMILEY finds Steven in this distress and laughs.

MR. SMILEY

Ha ha! That game gotchu again!

STEVEN

And I'm all out of quarters.
Mr. Smiley- Can I borrow a
quarter??

MR. SMILEY

HA! You mean you want *me* to give
you money so you can play *my*
games?? Boy, you're crazy!

Steven looks back and puts his hands to the screen, his teary eyes match those of Cookie Cat's abandoned family.

STEVEN

But... He left his family behind...

MR. SMILEY

Well, hey, Steven! How about you
enter into the Strong-O Competition
happening this afternoon! I'm
sponsoring it!

(MORE)

MR. SMILEY (CONT'D)

The winner gets a YEAR of FREE
arcade games! *Actual value may
vary.*

Mr. Smiley hands Steven a flyer with "Strong-O Competition!"
written in big letters. There's a silhouette of a super-buff
body and it says "Win Free Funland Arcade games for a year!*"
Smaller font reads "*Actual value may vary."

Steven's eyes go wide and starry as he gasps in excitement!

STEVEN

WOW!!! I can win that! I'm super
strong!

Steven hops back to flex his muscles for Mr. Smiley. They're
lackluster.

MR. SMILEY

Ha! I was only kidding Steven! You
can't win this competition. You're
way too... babyish...

STEVEN

Baby-ish?

MR. SMILEY

Like a tiny baby! Besides check out
at those guys!

Mr. Smiley points to gym equipment on the beach. Two super
buff looking dudes and one super buff looking lady are
working out, COREY, LANE, and SIMA, respectively. They
glisten in the sunlight doing sit-ups, chin-ups, push-ups,
and other super hard workouts that end in "ups". They look
almost exactly like the silhouette on the flyer. ONION is
there, too, but he's just kicking sand at them then running
away over and over.

MR. SMILEY (CONT'D)

See! They're competing. And look-
They're working out now, before the
competition even starts! Face it,
Universe, you're not big enough or
strong enough to take on those
beasts.

Steven strokes his chin contemplating his options. Behind
him, a colorful arcade game light bulb DINGS as it lights up!
Steven has an idea...

STEVEN

OH! Maybe I'm not strong enough
alone, but...

INT. CRYSTAL TEMPLE - DAY

STEVEN

C'mon, Garnet! Fuse with me!

GARNET is exercising, pummeling a purple punching bag.

GARNET

No.

STEVEN

But PLEEEAAAASEEEE! If you and I
fuse we'll be the strongest of all!
We'll win the competition for sure!

GARNET

No.

STEVEN

Awwww! What about you Amethyst??
Fuse with me- Smoky Quartz could
definitely win!

The purple punching bag spins and opens its eyes. It's
Amethyst.

AMETHYST

Sure!

Garnet punches the Amethyst punching bag hard enough to knock
it off its chain and reset Amethyst back to shape.

GARNET

No, you won't.

STEVEN

AWWWWWW UGGGHHHH!

Pearl sits on the couch, examining the "Strong-O Competition"
flyer.

PEARL

Steven, fusion is a very serious
ability. And it should be
respected. You can't just fuse for
some silly weight-lifting
competition and free video games.

STEVEN

It's free video games *FOR A YEAR*,
Pearl!!!

PEARL

Well, it says here "actual value
may vary."

AMETHYST (O.S.)

Ha! Pearl's just jealous you didn't
ask *her* to fuse, Steven...

Amethyst struts up, looking like Purple Puma, flexing, before
leaning, cocksure, on Garnet.

AMETHYST (CONT'D)

Pearl's not as *ripped* as me or
Garnet here.

Garnet punches Amethyst across the room again.

PEARL

That's not true. Besides, *real*
strength is about more than just
big muscles.

STEVEN

Yeah, I know that. But... this
competition I'm pretty sure is
mostly about big muscles.

Pearl gives the flyer back to Steven, who holds it up,
comparing the buff silhouette to Garnet, Amethyst, and
finally, Pearl.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Aw... forget it. I'll never win
that competition.

Steven crumples the flyer and tosses it aside. He hangs his
head as he walks out the front door.

Amethyst (Purple Puma) continues to taunt Pearl with her
muscles. Garnet punches her away one more time for good
measure.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Steven walks sullenly out to the beach and finds LION
lounging. Steven lies down next to him, resting his head on
Lion's belly. He looks up to the moon, visible in the daytime
sky.

STEVEN

I'm sorry Cookie Cat. You'll never
see your family again- Whoa!

Suddenly Lion jumps up, dropping Steven's head to the sand. Lion is enthralled by a hermit crab crawling along the beach. The hermit crab digs itself into the ground and Lion digs after it. Unable to find anything, Lion pounces around.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Huh? Oh you wanna play! Okay!

Steven pounces around just like Lion. Lion seems to sense something at another part on the beach and dashes off. Steven chases after him, his spirits returned.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Hahaha!

Lion stops at another tiny hole in the sand, trying to peer inside. Steven jumps up and crashes into Lion! The two roll on the ground together, playing like cubs. They wrestle, laugh, wrestle, laugh, wrestle... then-

FUSION!!!

STEVEN-LION FUSION

Huh? HUH??

The newly found fusion of Steven and Lion hops up to two feet, then falls back down to four. They steady their way back up to two feet. Steven and Lion are now fused to become... STEVION!

Stevion stands tall, with thick hair like Lion's mane. This fusion is very strong- The muscles of a lion in a humanoid form. Their extremities are somewhere between hands and paws. They admire and flex, looking themselves all over.

STEVION

Hey! Whoa!

Stevion sees a nearby beach boulder and picks it up with ease, tossing it into the ocean. Lots of tiny hermit crabs crawl in all directions from where the stone sat.

STEVION (CONT'D)

Haha!

Stevion falls to all fours again and takes off faster than ever towards the temple!

INT. CRYSTAL TEMPLE - DAY

Stevion BURSTS through the door, kicking it down! The gems all in the main room jump, quickly readying their weapons.

STEVIION
Hey wait! Wait! It's me! It's us,
Steven and Lion! We fused!

The Gems stop short, just before attacking.

PEARL
WHAAAT??

AMETHYST
NOOO WAY!! A brand new fusion!!
This is so cool! Steven... and
Lion...

Garnet casually replaces the door back on it's hinges.

GARNET
Stevion.

AMETHYST
Haha! Yeah! Stevion!

PEARL
Stev...ion?

Pearl looks Stevion up and down. She notices their voluminous mane of hair, pinkish-peach tint, and round face. Pearl glances up to the wall behind Stevion, the photo of Rose Quartz, and sees a staggering resemblance.

PEARL (CONT'D)
Oh my gosh... You- you look like
Rose...

STEVIION
Huh?

AMETHYST
Whooooaaa!

GARNET
There is definitely a resemblance.

STEVIION
Rose Quartz? I- I look like my mom?

Stevion looks up to the portrait of Rose Quartz, than to their own reflection in a mirror. They see it too.

STEVIION (CONT'D)
Wow.

Stevion is distracted by this for a moment, and feels a sting of sadness coming on. Their eyes begin to well up and Pearl takes notice. Amethyst interrupts...

AMETHYST

Hey- looks like you could
definitely win that competition
now!

PEARL

Are you sure you're okay, Steven--
Er, *Stevion*?

Stevion had forgotten all about the Strong-O Competition. They pick up and smooth the crumpled flyer to look at it again, seeing the buff silhouette.

STEVION

The Strong-O Competition! I have to
win! Gotta! Be! STRONG!!!

Stevion wipes their eyes, ridding their face of any loitering tears. They flip the couch up and over- throwing it across the room before striking a super-strong hero pose!

STEVION (CONT'D)

Those quarters are as good as mine!

Garnet casually carries the couch back and replaces it.

EXT. BEACH CITY FUNLAND - DAY

Stevion arrives on the scene. Pearl, Garnet, and Amethyst accompany them. MAYOR DEWEY is holding a sign-up sheet. Stevion can't quite grab the pen, but instead smashes it in their hands, covering them with ink. They then SLAM their hand down on the sign-up sheet, leaving a paw mark. Mayor Dewey takes a look.

MAYOR DEWEY

Ah! Hmm...

Mayor Dewey looks Stevion up and down. Stevion returns with a big sparkling smile, showing off sharp teeth.

MAYOR DEWEY (CONT'D)

Well, good luck!

Stevion runs off to join Sima, Corey, and Lane by the beach gym equipment. Mayor Dewey speaks into his megaphone as Mr. Smiley stands beside him with a giant gong.

MAYOR DEWEY (CONT'D)

Welcome citizens of Beach City to
the first annual Strong-O
Competition! Sponsored by Funland!
"This fun is your land. This fun is
our land. This fun is *Funland*."
Now, without further ado- let the
competition begin!

Mr. Smiley whacks the giant gong, commencing the competition!

Strong-O Competition MONTAGE:

- Scanning along the pull-up bars, the competitors are doing pull-ups. At the end of the line, Stevion is doing what's closer to handstands, pushing their body up on top of the pull-up bars!

- Next, the barbell competition. The competitors stand on the stage, each lifting increasingly heavier weights than the last. Stevion lifts the whole stage, with their competition on it!

- Then, hammer throw competition. Corey, throws pretty far. Lane beats him out. Then, Sima makes an impressive showing, beating both of them! But, of course, Stevion picks up a giant conch shell they finds on the beach, and lifts it over their head to throw. Onion pops his head out of the shell just before Stevion throws it super far- all the way down the beach! Stevion sees Onion going along for the ride and shocked goes chasing after to retrieve him.

End MONTAGE.

EXT. BOARDWALK - AFTERNOON

It's time for the Strong-O Competition results! The competitors gather on stage with Mayor Dewey and Mr. Smiley. Sima, Lane, and Corey look exhausted while Stevion hasn't broken a sweat.

MAYOR DEWEY

Wow! What a display of strength we
saw here today! Thank you everybody
who came out to watch and cheer on
today's competition! Though I think
I speak for everybody when I say it
wasn't much of a "competition,"
after all.

Stevion stands proud, flashing their sharp, pearly whites.

MAYOR DEWEY (CONT'D)
And now, the moment you've all been
waiting for- drumroll please!

Mr. Smiley takes to conducting a very brassy drumroll on the
gong.

MAYOR DEWEY (CONT'D)
The winner of the first annual
Beach City Funland Strong-O
Competition and recipient of a
years worth of free games at
Funland Arcade-

MR. SMILEY
Actual value may vary!

MAYOR DEWEY
Is... Stevion!!

Stevion is the winner! The other competitors applaud politely
and walk off into the crowd. Stevion approaches the center of
the stage, grabbing the megaphone from Mayor Dewey.

STEVION
You know- I first entered this
competition just for the video
games.

MAYOR DEWEY
Uhm... You don't actually have to
give a speech...

STEVION
But I learned something today!
Strength is *not* about more than
muscles! It's *only* about muscles!
And mine are the strongest- so I
win!

Stevion looks out to the crowd and spots their competitors as
they meet a little old lady. She's beaming with pride- The
three other competitors are triplets, and this is their
mother, SYLVIA. Mayor Dewey grabs his megaphone back.

MAYOR DEWEY
Thanks for coming citizens! Have an
amazing Beach City day! And don't
forget to vote for Mayor Dewey!

Stevion is heavily distracted by the family of competitors.
The triplets bend down, all meeting their mother in one big
hug. Stevion sees this, particularly noticing how cutesy the
three are with Sylvia: hugging and kissing, like children.

SYLVIA

Oh, my, my! I'm so proud of you
three! Come here!

Mayor Dewey pokes Stevion for their attention, handing them a bag of quarters and a trophy. The trophy is a big gold statue of the same buff looking silhouette from the flyer. It's engraved, "Beach City's Strongest," and the bag of quarters looks like it's probably not a year's worth.

Stevion looks closely at the trophy, noticing their own reflection. Now, Stevion sees just how much they truly look like Rose. And just how much they wish she was there. Stevion starts to cry.

A big tear falls onto the head of Mayor Dewey, who recoils!

MAYOR DEWEY

Hey! Hey! Are you crying?? You
can't cry! You're supposed to be a
Strong-O! Hey! Give me that trophy
back!

This outburst pulls the attention of Sima, Lane, and Corey.

Mayor Dewey struggles with the sobbing Stevion, finally pulling the trophy away, and dropping the sack of quarters spilling them on the stage.

In the scuffle, Stevion unfuses! Lion looks around, a little confused. Steven, crying more than ever now, runs off towards the beach, pushing past the crowd. Lion takes after him.

PEEDEE FRYMAN counts the spilled quarter on the stage and yells to Mr. Smiley...

PEEDEE

Hey! This isn't a year's worth! Six
months, tops!

EXT. BEACH - AFTERNOON

Steven huddles on the Beach, his head in his knees. Lion's curled up, asleep, behind him. The Gems walk up to find Steven. They sit down next to him in the sand.

STEVEN

I miss my mom. I mean... I know I
never really got to be with her,
but still.

GARNET

Rose would have been very proud of you today, Steven.

STEVEN

I felt her. Usually my gem feels like just a tiny piece of her. But today, when I was fused with Lion- it was like she was whole again. Inside us. Inside Stevion.

PEARL

You really put on a show up there, Steven. Just like Rose would have.

AMETHYST

Oh man! Steven! When Stevion picked up the *WHOLE STAGE!* Haha! That was so AWESOME!!

STEVEN

Heh, thanks Amethyst. But then I blew it! I cried in front of everybody! Like a big baby...

PEARL

Steven, this is what I was trying to tell you earlier. Strength isn't about-

Pearl is interrupted as a shadow eclipses the crew. It belongs to the triplets, come to talk with Steven.

SIMA

Hey! There's nothing wrong with crying!

LANE

Yeah! Crying is how your insides show your outsides what's happening on your insides!

Lane gesticulates his point along, emphasizing his heart.

COREY

Yeah, little dude. Truly addressing your emotions, letting them take over. Showing the whole world how you really feel- That's the strongest thing you can do!

LANE

And on stage in front of the whole city! You're one buff dude...

Steven wipes away a tear and smiles, feeling comforted.

SIMA

Besides- Moms? They're something special. You can't deny it.

Sima, Corey, and Lane's mom is a distance away. They all watch as Lion is investigating her, sniffing. She cheerily pulls a candy out of her purse and feeds it to Lion, patting him on the head. Lion is very satisfied.

LANE

We'd be nothing without her.

COREY

Totally. She made us into who we are today!

Steven lifts his shirt and puts his hand on his Gem, Rose's Gem. He smiles.

STEVEN

Heh. Me too.

SIMA

Sorry they took your trophy away.

COREY

Yeah! That was lame, dude.

LANE

Seriously! That "Strong-O" contest was just workouts and who could lift the heaviest stuff. That's not what *real* strength is about!

COREY

Totally. Real strength is about more than just big muscles.

STEVEN

Hey! You're right!

Everybody nods along and agrees, having learned a valuable lesson from Corey. Everybody except Pearl, who's pretty annoyed nobody listened to her in the first place.

PEARL

What?? That's what I said before all of this!

STEVEN

(to the triplets)
You guys are smart.

Pearl huffs.

In the background, Lion digs at the sand with the little old lady riding on his back. Onion pops out of a hole in the sand and starts running away as Lion chases him.

STAR IRIS TO
BLACKOUT

THE END