

The Chocolate Debate

By Explore

SCENE 1 – THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

WONKA *enter to music*

ROWNTREE *enter to music*

ROWNTREE: Greetings. I'm Joseph Rowntree. A pleasure to finally visit.

WONKA:

What are you doing here in *my* chocolate factory?

ROWNTREE:

I think this factory should belong to me. Long ago, I planned to build something here—a place to help people live and work in a kind way.

WONKA:

Help people? Joseph, this place is about fun! Chocolate rivers, rainbow sweets, magical rooms! People come here to smile!

ROWNTREE:

But your factory is full of strange and dangerous things. Children fall in chocolate, get stuck in machines... That's not safe.

WONKA:

It's exciting! It's full of surprises! Kids love it! You want everything to be rules and rules. I want it to be fun and full of magic!

ASSISTANT ROWNTREE:

Fun is good, but people need care too. My factory gives people jobs, good homes, schools. Your factory has none of that.

WONKA:

But my factory gives people dreams! They see things here they've never seen before. Isn't that important too?

ASSISTANT ROWNTREE:

Yes, dreams matter. But so does kindness. We need both.

ALL WONKA:

Hmm... maybe we do.

(A loud whirr. TIME MACHINE SOUND. Lights dim, slow-motion movement as the stage transforms.)

SCENE 2 – TRANSITIONAL TIME TRAVEL SEQUENCE

ALL gather on stage. Movement is stylized, dreamlike.

ALL:

Welcome to our own factory!
Then he meets his good friend Rowntree.
Hello, I'm Rowntree.
This is *my* factory!
Wonka, get out of my factory!
Only one way to solve it...

ALL:

(chanting) Gameshow!

(JINGLE SOUND)

ALL:

Gameshow rules are...

Don't cheat

Try your best

Act with kindness

Someone must go home!

SCENE 3 – THE KINDNESS CONTEST

WONKA:

Welcome, everyone! Today, one of you will win the chocolate factory! But only the person who shows kindness, honesty, and imagination. Let's begin!

Enter CONTESTANT ONE

CONTESTANT ONE

Hello, Mr. Wonka! I love chocolate, but I love helping people too. If I win the factory, I will make sure everyone who works here feels happy and safe.

WONKA:

Very good. Chocolate and caring—sweet together!

Enter CONTESTANT TWO, energetic.

CONTESTANT TWO

If I win, I'll make new chocolate bars with cool names. Like Super Crunch or Fizzy Rainbow! And everyone who visits gets a free bar!

WONKA:

Oh, I love the sound of Fizzy Rainbow! That's full of fun!

Enter CONTESTANT THREE.

CONTESTANT THREE:

Hi, Mr. Wonka. If I get the factory, I'll make a special room where kids who feel worried can go and rest. Sometimes people need quiet, even in a noisy place.

WONKA:

A quiet room? What a gentle idea. The best chocolate makers care about feelings.

Enter CONTESTANT FOUR, enthusiastic.

CONTESTANT FOUR:

Hi there! I want to build a chocolate school inside the factory. People can learn how to make sweets, wrap them, and even make up their own flavours!

WONKA:

Oh my! Learning and sweets—what a clever mix!

WONKA:

You all have big hearts and great ideas. But only one can win. Hmm... but wait—why choose just one?

ALL TOGETHER:

What do you mean?

WONKA:

Never mind—Rowntree, take it away!

SCENE 4 – THE GAMES BEGIN

ROWNTREE:

Round one is called *Swim for the Win!*

The rules? Simple: paddle, float, or swim your way across the chocolatey stream—as quickly and safely as you can.

There are floating jelly rafts, candy-cane paddles, and marshmallow lane markers to guide the way. You've trained, you've practiced, and now it's time to SHINE.

Ready to make some waves?

On your marks...

Three... two... one... SWIM!

(Exciting music as contestants mime a swim race across the stage.)

WONKA:

Round two is upon us, and it's not for the faint of fudge!

Today, dear darlings, you will face a challenge of strength, balance... and the delicious weight of destiny. This round is called: *Carry the Most Chocolate!*

Yes, that's right! A simple game—if chocolate weren't the slipperiest, most uncooperative confection in the world. Oh, and did I mention some of it is melted?

Your task is to carry the greatest amount of chocolate from one end of the hall to the other.

No tools. No magic. Just you and chocolate!

What kind of chocolate, you ask?

Truffles the size of turtles.

Bars so heavy they've been mistaken for bricks.

But beware! Drop so much as a crumb, and the *Chocolate Snatchers* may pay you a visit...

So! Who among you will rise as the chocolate-champion?

Let the carrying commence!

Wonka: I've realised through this, Mr Rowntree, that kindness wins. You all win and can share the factory

All contestants: Hooray!

Music and dance sequence begin