

MY SMELL

Drama

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1. EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT - CHRISTMAS DAY

MELLY, a chubby 13-year-old girl, is on her knees searching a garbage bag in the snow. She finds a deadly-looking rotten tomato.

Her face lights up. She digs her nose in it, a wide smile turning upside down. She takes a bite, pauses, then rapidly munches until it's gone.

She kicks the bag, hitting her foot on something hard. She digs back and finds a pair of expensive headphones.

MELLY

Who on God's white earth would
throw away these?

MELLY

Do they not come with a phone?

She searches the bag for a phone, finds nothing.

MELLY

I'll use them to warm my ears up.
It's quite chilly.

MELLY puts on the headphones. Music plays. Rainbow colors flow, illuminating from the headphones, and she experiences euphoria.

MELLY

(eyes lighting up)
Smells like amazing.

She takes off the headphones and sniffs the trash.

MELLY

Nothing.

Puts the headphones back on.

MELLY

Something.

Takes the headphones off and sniffs again.

MELLY

Nothing.

Puts them back on.

MELLY

Nose still don't work.

Suddenly, Santa Claus flies across the sky.

SANTA

Ho, ho, ho! Merry Christmas.

MELLY stares in awe, then runs to the street.

2. EXT. STREET - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

MELLY runs up to a woman and her little daughter.

MELLY

Do you see that? It's Santa!

WOMAN

(holding her nose)

You stink.

LITTLE GIRL

I don't see Santa.

MELLY takes off her headphones and places them on the woman's ears.

Music plays.

MELLY

Do you smell that?

WOMAN

No.

(pushes MELLY to the
ground)

Don't touch me.

The woman throws off the headphones and leaves with her daughter. Melly's face fills with tears. She picks the headphones up and stands. Beneath her, a cracked phone glints. She picks it up.

PHONE

Bluetooth mode.

She opens a music app and plays the sound of water. She throws up. Quickly, she turns it off.

People pass by, holding their noses, looking at her. MELLY switches to joyful piano music.

MELLY

I call this smell pancakes.

A pink aura radiates through the street. MELLY frolicks and dances as she moves through the neighborhood. She sees a recently thrown-away hamburger and picks it up. She switches to a joyful guitar song.

MELLY

Hamburger with cheese.

A teenager throws a soda at her in disgust. It spills. MELLY switches to electric dance music.

MELLY

Cherry soda.

She licks soda the ground, unphased.

3. EXT. PARK - DAY - 60 YEARS LATER

MELLY (63), headphones on, sits on a bench with her husband JOHN. They eat rotten tomatoes, laughing.

MELLY

Want some of my apple?
(holding the tomato toward
JOHN)

JOHN

Smells fresh.

They laugh together.

FADE TO BLACK.