



6 Minutes And 28 Seconds

**By 6th Graders Alice Stricker, Lucia Mecchi, and
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Characters

Jimmy- A very smart, independent, and hardworking child prodigy who is kind and always positive. When he is nervous or excited, he taps the balls on his hand that are directly below the fingers together. He also speaks with a lisp.

Petunia- A child prodigy who is aggressive and bullies Jimmy. She wants to be perfect so her mother will pay more attention to her.

Mr. Brikford- A strict teacher who hates children and favors Petunia. Petunia is his teacher's pet, and that has blocked him from seeing how talented Jimmy is.

Parallel Jimmy- Exactly the same as Jimmy.

Parallel Petunia- Exactly the same as Petunia.

Mr. O'Cranium- A kind, responsible parent to Jimmy.

Mrs. O'Cranium- A kind, responsible parent to Jimmy.

Parallel Mr. O'Cranium- Exactly the same as Mr. O'Cranium.

Parallel Mrs. O'Cranium- Exactly the same as Mrs. O'Cranium.

Parallel Mrs. Goodwin- Parallel Petunia's mother who does not pay much attention to Parallel Petunia because she is so busy.



Act 1, Scene 1

(There are is a class of children in a plain uninviting classroom. It is modern day.)

MR. BRIKFORD

Class, if you don't get quiet this instant, you will all have detention!

(The class gasps and goes silent)

PETUNIA

I know I can be quiet, but I am not sure about Jimmy!

MR. BRIKFORD

You are correct, Petunia. It is hard for Jimmy to be quiet. But, if you, Petunia, could quiet down just a little, that would really motivate the class.

(Mr. Brikford winks at Petunia, Petunia smiles)

PETUNIA

Okay Mr. Brikford!

MR. BRIKFORD

As for the rest of you, I'm sure you've already forgotten about the Pi Day Science Fair, isn't that right Jimmy?

(Jimmy starts to tap the balls of his palms together)

JIMMY

Actually no, I've been working on it nonstop for the past three weeks, and I'm almost done with it!

MR. BRIKFORD

Please Jimmy, we don't need you lies, we all know you're a procrastinator. You have better get your act together, the science fair is coming up!

PETUNIA

Yeah Jimmy, you better get your act together!



JIMMY

But I... Oh never mind.

PETUNIA

What's that Jimmy, were going to say something? Just say it, don't be a chicken!

JIMMY

I was just going to say that I was planning on finishing my project tonight.

MR. BRIKFORD

Okay, okay Jimmy. Enough of your lies. We have a lot of ground to cover today. Let's show our love for math by opening up our math textbooks to page 314.

(Students sigh and open their textbooks as the light goes dark)



Act 1, Scene 2

(Jimmy walks into his house and drops his book bag by the door)

JIMMY

Hi Mr. and Mrs. O'Cranium!

(Mrs. O'Cranium shares a warm hug with Jimmy)

MRS. O'CRANIUM

Hey sweet pea, how was your day?

JIMMY

It was fantastic! How was yours Mrs. O'Cranium?

MRS. O'CRANIUM

I had a great day! But, son you can just call me mom, you know that you don't have to act like an adult all of the time, right?

JIMMY

Yes, you are correct Mrs., I mean Mom. Well I'm off to work on my science project.

(Jimmy starts to walk off but is stopped by Mr. O'Cranium)

MR. O'CRANIUM

I thought that your project wasn't due until Thursday, and aren't you almost done with it? So, why don't you go outside and play?

JIMMY

My, greatest apologies... Dad. I don't want to go outside, even though the fresh air is great for my respiratory system. Today I finally get to test my teleporting machine!

MRS. O'CRANIUM

Okay son...

(Mr. and Mrs. O'Cranium share a smile as Jimmy grins and bounds out)



Act 1, Scene 3

(Dark with spotlight on Jimmy and his teleporting machine. Jimmy is in his room which is filled with many organized boxes. He has lots of scientific diagrams and reading posters on the walls.)

JIMMY

Okay, just one more nail.

(Uses a hammer on a machine that looks like an oversized refrigerator box)

JIMMY

I'm done! Now let's turn it on!

(Jimmy flips a switch so the machine turns on and opens the door. Dry ice fog comes out which reveals a heavy-duty chair with a lot of buttons and safety straps)

JIMMY

It looks so good I could have a spontaneous combustion! Safety first!

(Jimmy steps into the machine and buckles his seat)

Ooh! I just received a questioning thought, since it is the Pi Day Science Fair, I wonder what would happen if I typed in 3.14.

(Jimmy types in 3.14 as he says "3.14")

(Box starts to shake and rattle while the lights are flickering)

JIMMY

WHOA! I DID NOT EXPECT THIS CHAOTIC OCCURRENCE! Maybe I forgot to solder the Global Positioning System with the perpetual navigator!

(Lights go out. Mrs. and Mr. O'Craniums' voices come from off stage)

MRS. O'CRANIUM

Jimmy! What was that noise? Are you okay?



(Silence for a couple of seconds)

MR. O'CRANIUM

JIMMY VINCENT O-CRANIUM! Answer your mother! ... Jimmy?



Act 1, Scene 4

(Jimmy arrives in parallel universe with a broken, smoking teleporting machine that has landed and crushed an identical one.)

JIMMY

Wait, why am I still in my room? Oh, the particle xcelerator must have run out of fuel!

(Parallel Jimmy is very confused and upset because his teleporting machine was crushed by an identical one)

PARALLEL JIMMY

What happened? This is just like that time when I accidentally mixed Sulfur Dioxide with water, but that's referring back to chemistry.

JIMMY

(Whispers to himself while he is inside of the teleporter)

Oh no, I think I disrupted the space time continuum.

PARALLEL JIMMY

What was that, Mr. O'Cranium?

(Jimmy steps out of the teleporter. Parallel Jimmy sees Jimmy, both Jimmy and Parallel Jimmy scream at the sight of each other)

Who are you? You better not be a shape-shifting cyborg! Are you the one who crushed my teleporting machine?

JIMMY

I swear I'm not! And I didn't crush your machi-- actually, sorry about that. I think I entered a...



JIMMY AND PARALLEL JIMMY
(Jimmy is excited, Parallel Jimmy is confused)

Parallel Universe!!!

(Parallel Jimmy and Jimmy begin tapping the balls on their palms together)

PARALLEL JIMMY

Sorry, I don't want to burst your bubble but if that was true I would be in *your* universe by now.

JIMMY

There must have been a tear in the fabric of time causing our universes to develop at different paces. Let's see...

(Checks watch)

It's an exactly 6 minutes and 28 seconds difference.

(From off stage)

PARALLEL MR. O'CRANIUM

Jimmy, supper's ready!

JIMMY AND PARALLEL JIMMY

Okay Mr. O'Cranium, I'll be there in a minute!

(Jimmy and Parallel Jimmy both look at each other in surprise)

PARALLEL JIMMY

Um, Mom, Dad, I think you need to come up here. There's something that might be problematic.

(Parallel Mr. and Mrs. O'Cranium enter and gasp)

PARALLEL MR. O'CRANIUM

Jimmy, did you accidentally clone yourself?



(Parallel Mrs. O’Cranium interrupts Parallel Mr. O’Cranium)

PARALLEL MRS. O’CRANIUM

AGAIN!?

PARALLEL MR. O’CRANIUM

Oh, what doctor did we consult last time? I’m sorry son, but you need to check our health insurance before conducting your experiments.

PARALLEL JIMMY

Wait, I didn’t clone myself this time, this is a different version of me from a parallel universe.

(Mr. and Mrs. O’Cranium are dumbstruck.)

PARALLEL MR. O’CRANIUM

Oh my goodness, you are the first person to travel from one universe to another. Congratulations!

PARALLEL MRS. O’CRANIUM

Jimmy, I’m really proud!

PARALLEL MR. CRANIUM

Sons, this is a great accomplishment, but Jimmy, uh, from the parallel universe, you need to get back. Your parents must be worried sick, well, we would be, and I guess that would be that same with your parents.

(Parallel Mrs. O’Cranium is very proud, but is acting stern, like any protective parent would.)

PARALLEL MRS. O’CRANIUM

Jimmy, your father is right, you must be heading home soon. You two need to figure out how to fix *your* Machine.

(Points to Jimmy. Jimmy begins to nervously rant really fast. While he says this, he starts to tap the balls of his palm together)



JIMMY

Oh, I'm really sorry! That was brainless of me, especially as your son! I mean, my other parent's son, but you are actually my parents... Sorry I'm just getting used to this whole thing with both of us being named Jimmy and we both have parents that look exactly the same which would make sense since I am in a parallel universe. I wonder if this has happened to anyone else... If it has, I wonder if they had the same problem that I am having right now, unless they were in a universe that had different names but looked like the people that the person knew.

(Jimmy walks around the room ranting in a whisper to himself)

PARALLEL JIMMY

Sorry about me, or him, I don't know! We start talking really fast and in long and confusing sentences when we are stressed so please just ignore him, yeah, him not me, him.

PARALLEL MRS. O'CRANIUM

Take a deep breath you two. We love you guys.

PARALLEL MR. O'CRANIUM

This is no big deal, we just need to get you back to your own universe!

(As Parallel Mr. O'Cranium says "your own", he gestures towards Jimmy)

JIMMY AND PARALLEL JIMMY

Just one problem...

JIMMY

My teleporting machine broke down.

(Jimmy gestures to his smoking teleporter)

JIMMY

I believe it has something to do with how the atmosphere has a magnetic blockage of outside hydraulic gases. Or, maybe the hydraulic gas pipes were blocked?

PARALLEL MRS. O'CRANIUM

Well, I know how smart my swee- my two sweeties are, so I'm sure you'll find a way to fix this problem.



(Both Jimmys look at each other in a confused manner)

JIMMY AND PARALLEL JIMMY

We'll see about that.



Act 2, Scene 1

(The lights are dimmed in Parallel Jimmy's room with Parallel Jimmy in his bed and Jimmy is in a sleeping bag with a pillow on the floor besides the bed)

JIMMY
(Sighs)

How do we fix this conundrum?

PARALLEL JIMMY

Well, maybe we can hot wire...

(Jimmy interrupts Parallel Jimmy)

JIMMY

No, that may cause a nuclear reaction when it exits our atmosphere. Well, I wonder what would happen if we were to replace Plutonium concentrate with...

PARALLEL JIMMY

By doing that, we would only get a centimeter off the ground. But, what if...

JIMMY

We could ask Petunia! But what if she doesn't want to help us?

PARALLEL JIMMY

I don't think we'll have to worry about that! I have something that she loves.

JIMMY AND PARALLEL JIMMY

Algebra flashcards!

JIMMY

Wait, where does Petunia live? Oh, wait, 918 Sky Bird Avenue.

PARALLEL JIMMY

We'll go there tomorrow.



JIMMY

Obviously after we eat a nutritious whole grain breakfast.



Act 2, Scene 2

(Parallel Petunia's living room with door turned sideways. The doorbell rings, and you can hear Mrs. Goodwin's voice from offstage)

PARALLEL MRS. GOODWINN

Petunia! What did I tell you to do exactly

(checks watch)

37 seconds ago!?

PARALLEL PETUNIA

I don't recall...?

PARALLEL MRS. GOODWINN

I told you to clean your room, and finish your homework! I need to make a conference call, and I can't take anymore of your nonsense.

PARALLEL PETUNIA

But I already did!

PARALLEL MRS. GOODWINN

(In a sassy high pitched voice)

Honey, I need you to actually do your work! I'm on a very important phone call!

PETUNIA

You never pay attention, you just nag, nag, nag!

PARALLEL MRS. GOODWINN

Petunia, I am not your maid, you can't pretend to clean your room!

(Petunia whispers to herself.)

PETUNIA

But I really did...



(The doorbell rings again and Petunia gets up and opens the door. Only Parallel Jimmy is visible for Petunia, Jimmy is behind Parallel Jimmy)

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Oh great, what are you doing here?

(Jimmy steps out from Parallel Jimmy. He is very upset.)

JIMMY

That's what we came here to discuss. See, well, I guess, let me just put it this way, I am from a different universe and my teleporting machine broke down and I can't find a way to fix it and so we need your help!

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Oh my lord! Why are there two of the most disturbing and annoying people on Earth in my home? What is happening?! Wait, hold your horses, did you just mention that you are from a different universe?

PARALLEL JIMMY AND JIMMY

Yup!

PARALLEL PETUNIA

I can see that since there is, as a matter of fact, two of you who look EXACTLY the same with those stupid bow ties and the "Say NO to meat" shirt! Who do you think I am, a kindergartener? You dweeb!

(The two Jimmys straighten their ties.)

(From off stage Parallel Mrs. Goodwinn calls.)

PARALLEL MRS. GOODWINN

Petunia Goodwin! What is all that yelling about down there? Yes-- I am still here Mrs. Grith-Petunia, have you done what I told you to do yet? Who was at the door? Just, nevermind! Keep the noise down!

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Okay, okay Mom! Stop yelling and do your work that you always say that you have a lot of and that is why you can't do any house work and I have to do EVERYTHING! I bet



your conference calls are just chatty time with your “girl friends!”

(Parallel Petunia says this with a terrible high pitched imitation of her mother’s tone.)

PARALLEL MRS. GOODWINN

Petunia Alicia Goodwin, you need to start acting mature enough for your own age! I am preparing you for later on life struggles! Now let me get back to my work... Hello, are you still there Mrs. Grith? Oh great, she hung up on me! THANKS FOR RUINING MY CHANCE WITH A RICH CLIENT, PETUNIA!

(Both Parallel Jimmy and Jimmy share a look of surprise and start tapping the balls of their hands together)

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Well, sorry, Mom! Maybe I would behave better if you acknowledged what I do! Just last week, I made a breakfast machine for you!

PARALLEL MRS. GOODWINN

Whatever, Petunia... Oh good, Mrs. Grith is calling back!

PARALLEL JIMMY

Man, your mom is kind of tough on you.

(Parallel Petunia sadly gazes down at her hand.)

PARALLEL PETUNIA

My Mother has not been taking my father’s death very well, even though he died from a heart attack seven years ago. Ever since then, she has not payed much attention to me and what I do.

(Both Jimmys look at each other in surprise)

JIMMY AND PARALLEL JIMMY

Oh my, I’m sorry. Is that why you’re mean to me? You’re jealous of my happy family, aren’t you?



PARALLEL PETUNIA

It's none of your beeswax! Just get to the point of why I need to help you and why I should help you.

JIMMY

Okay, so long story short, I decided to make a teleporting machine for the Pi Day Science Fair and when I was testing it out, I typed in 3.14 and who knew, it was the address of a parallel universe! When I got here, my teleporting machine landed on this Jimmy's machine

(He points to Parallel Jimmy)

and they both broke so we need your help to fix them so I can get back to my universe.

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Look, somehow, you're wrong. It's impossible for you to be here without the other Jimmy in your universe.

PARALLEL JIMMY

Well, there's actually a time gap-

JIMMY

Six minutes and twenty-eight seconds.

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Whatever. So, what you are telling me is that I am supposed to help you fix your machine for nothing in return?

PARALLEL JIMMY

That's where you are incorrect, we brought you algebra flashcards!

(Parallel Jimmy pulls a box of flashcards out of his back pocket and waves it in Petunia's face.)

PARALLEL PETUNIA

And....? What else do I get in return? Oh, by the way, I'll take those!



(She grabs the flash cards)

JIMMY

Oh, right, what else do we have to offer?

(Jimmy nudges Parallel Jimmy)

PARALLEL JIMMY

What else do we have to offer? You know, that, that is a terrific question... Let me think about that.

PARALLEL PETUNIA

I see that nervous look in your eyes.

(She points to Parallel Jimmy)

By that, I can infer that you two just brought me algebra flashcards and nothing else! Am I correct? Of course I am! So I guess that I will just have to take your algebra textbook

(She points to Parallel Jimmy)

and your "I heart PI" key chain!

(She points to Jimmy and Jimmy defensively tucks his key chain into his pocket)

JIMMY

Absolutely not! And just a little brain refresher, if you don't help us you'll have to live with *two* Jimmys! So it is in your best interest to help us.

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Look, I guess that you're right. It would be a nightmare to live with two of you. I'll get you home, but only if you will give me that textbook!

PARALLEL JIMMY

What!? That's my favorite textbook of all time! I wouldn't give it up for the world. You



know, all of the arithmetic sequences in that textbook were created by the famous Isaac Newton!

PETUNIA

Run on home and get it for me, or your little friend is stuck here forever. Eternally, perpetually, forever more, stuck here.

(Parallel Jimmy and Jimmy sadly sigh in unison)

PARALLEL JIMMY

Okay, you can come to my house and fix the teleporters. Then, we'll give you the textbook.

(Petunia wrinkles her nose and rolls her eyes in dismay)

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Fine!



Act 2, Scene 3

(Jimmy, Parallel Petunia, and Parallel Jimmy are in Parallel Jimmy's room. Parallel Petunia has brought a duffle bag of tools, and all three children are wearing tool belts)

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Boy, I can't believe it, You somehow managed to blow out your gamma ray transmitter, and you blocked all of your hydraulic gas pipes. Gee, I haven't seen something this blocked up since my granny was constipated!

JIMMY

So, the gamma rays triggered the engine to overheat-

PARALLEL PETUNIA

And that caused the gas pipes to melt!

(Jimmy and Parallel Petunia high five)

PARALLEL JIMMY

Hey, great minds think alike!

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Even though we now know what happened, it doesn't necessarily mean that we're done.

PARALLEL JIMMY

My estimate is that it will take forty-nine hours and twelve minutes.

JIMMY

Don't forget the 36, oh my bad, 35 seconds. 34, 33, 32,...

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Just stop it!

(Stage fades to black)



Act 2, Scene 4

(This is taking place a few days later. Jimmy's teleporter looks much better and has shiny metal siding and Jimmy written on it in bold modern typeface)

(Petunia is working and Jimmy and Parallel Jimmy walk in)

JIMMY

Are you almost done fixing the teleporting machine?

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Yep, I just need to use my gawking screw driver to finish repairing the pipes.

(Parallel Petunia uses screw driver)

And, done.

JIMMY

Yes! Thanks so much Petunia, I'll finally be able to get back home!

(Jimmy, Parallel Jimmy, and Parallel Petunia jump up and down in celebration)

PARALLEL PETUNIA

(In a kind and joking way)

Your welcome, it still amazes me that you survived a trip through the time space continuum in a well, souped up refrigerator box.

JIMMY

Gee, thanks Petunia. Hey, you can have my key chain.

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Aw, no, it's really yours.

JIMMY

No, I mean it. Without you I wouldn't be able to leave.



PARALLEL PETUNIA

Thanks.

(Parallel Petunia, Parallel Jimmy, and Jimmy all high-five each other. Jimmy steps into his teleporter. He sticks his head out the window and waves)

JIMMY

Well, I guess this is goodbye.

PARALLEL PETUNIA

Yeah, I guess so.

PARALLEL JIMMY

I'm gonna miss you buddy, it was really cool having an extra me.

JIMMY

I'm gonna miss you too.

(Jimmy steps into teleporting machine)

Thanks again, both of you, for helping me get back home.

PARALLEL JIMMY

Wait! Do you know the code to type in that will get you to your universe!? How will you get back home now?!

(Both Parallel Jimmy and Jimmy begin to tap the balls of their palms together)

JIMMY

Oh no! I totally forgot! It will take years of solving millions of equations to ever figure it out!

(Jimmy steps out of teleporting machine and paces back in forth while parallel Jimmy does the same)



PARALLEL PETUNIA

According to my calculations, I believe the correct code should be the code you used to get here, but backwards.

JIMMY

Oh, Petunia, thank you again! The code to get here was 3.14 so, the code must be 41.3! Yes! That has to be it! I'll finally be able to get home! Oh my goodness, I better leave soon, my parents must be worried sick! Well, goodbye again and thank you!

(Jimmy steps back into teleporting machine and waves goodbye)

PARALLEL JIMMY AND PARALLEL PETUNIA

Bye!

(Parallel Jimmy and Parallel Petunia wave goodbye; Jimmy closes door of teleporting machine)

(Teleporting machine starts rumbling and steaming up; stage blacks out)



Act 2, Scene 5

(Teleporting machine flies into Jimmy's room and makes a smooth landing.)

JIMMY

I'm glad Petunia's upgrades included a soft landing booster.

(Jimmy steps out of teleporting machine and brushes himself off)

JIMMY

Oh, thank goodness this machine isn't broken again, I need it for the science fair! Which is...

(Jimmy checks his watch)

JIMMY

In five minutes and nineteen seconds! Oh man, I've got to go, quick! I'm going to be late to school if I don't hurry up.

(Jimmy quickly looks around teleporting machine)

JIMMY

Oh, thank goodness, nothing's broken. Ok, I now have...

(Jimmy checks watch)

Four minutes and two point eight seconds! Oh, I better lug this mechanism down the stairs and get it to school! Or maybe I could...

(Jimmy jumps into his teleporter. The engine starts and fog swirls underneath of it. The stage fades to black)



Act 2, Scene 6

(Jimmy steps out of his teleporting machine. His teleporter was quiet and landed in his cafeteria. Everyone has a poster board or an invention. The cafeteria is decorated with circles and streamers. Many parents are walking around the room and talking to students. There are three judges milling around. Mr. Brikford saw Jimmy land and puts a confused look on his face)

MR. BRIKFORD

Well, Jimmy I'm glad you decided to um, drop in. It looks like you arrived just in time. You have ten minutes to spare. Too bad you couldn't have gotten here earlier and helped Petunia and I decorate.

(Mr. Brikford gives Jimmy a smug look, as he gestures around the room)

JIMMY

Gee, I'm really sorry.

(Petunia comes up to Jimmy)

PETUNIA

I hear you gave your parents quite a scare when you ran away yesterday. Were you afraid they would find out that you didn't actually do anything for the science fair.

(Jimmy says this in a nice calm way, like a statement)

JIMMY

Actually, I did do something. It's right in that corner.

(Jimmy gestures to the teleporter)

PETUNIA

Well, I'm hope you had fun making your diorama of a tin can.

JIMMY

It's a teleporter, let me show you how it works.



(Jimmy and Petunia head towards the teleporter)

PETUNIA

There's no way I'm going into that tin can! I need a tetanus shot just to look at it!

JIMMY

You can come on if you want, I won't judge.

PETUNIA

I said no! You really are dumb!

(Jimmy smirks at Petunia)

JIMMY

Now, just stand there and watch. You'll just see what my giant tin can, can do.

(Jimmy steps into teleporting machine and starts up his teleporter)

MR.BRIKFORD

Ok, Jimmy, all you need to do is to show a small demonstration of what your machine can do.

JIMMY

Ok, for my demonstration, I will now teleport to room 314. If you would like to get there before me, I suggest that you all get a head start.

(Mr. Brikford, the children, the parents, and the judges exit stage in hurrying manner but Petunia stays)

(Jimmy walks over to the teleporting machine, gets in, and buckles his seatbelt)

PETUNIA

Do you really think that you can do all of that with a ball of tin foil?

JIMMY

Yes, Petunia, I do believe I can. Now before you miss my amazing demonstration, I would go to room 314 with everyone else.



(Petunia rolls her eyes and walks off. Jimmy shuts the door, followed by a puff of fog)

(Stage blacks out)



Act 2, Scene 7

(Everyone is waiting for the landing in room 314, a large classroom full of encouraging bright posters about learning. There is a puff of smoke and Jimmy is revealed. He takes off his seatbelt and steps out of the machine)

JIMMY

(Jimmy whispers to himself)

JIMMY

Thank the gods of science, it worked!

(Mr. Brikford is surprised)

MR. BRIKFORD

(In a sarcastic tone.)

I don't believe my eyes at this moment. It appears that Jimmy has done something breath taking for once!

(Mr. Brikford doesn't clap but everyone else is cheering and clapping)

JIMMY

Thank you, thank you!

(Jimmy takes a bow and everyone claps and cheers louder)

Now that I have done this demonstration, I will re-demonstrate this project by getting back to the cafeteria, where the rest of the science fair is taking place.

(Jimmy gets back into the machine and buckles his seatbelt while everyone walks off of the stage)

(There is a puff of smoke and the lights go dark)



Act 2, Scene 8

(Everyone is talking about Jimmy's project when there is a puff of smoke and Jimmy unbuckles his seatbelt and steps out of the machine)

(Mr. Brikford and Petunia walk over to Jimmy. They have gotten back to the cafeteria before most of the onlookers have)

PETUNIA

I don't think it was that impressive, anyone can create a puff of smoke and then teleport!

(In a sickly sweet voice)

MR. BRIKFORD

(in a worried way, because Mr. Brikford has realized that Jimmy is truly smart, and that he has been mistreating him)

I think that this demonstration was... very impressive Jimmy, you *might* get an honorable mention! I wonder how it will compare to Petunia's project.

MR. BRIKFORD

(Mr. Brikford walks into a corner and talks to himself.)

On second thought, it could actually be close to a tie. I guess I've let my feelings with Mrs. O'Cranium block me from seeing...

(Parent pulls Mr. Brikford aside.)

PETUNIA

What?! No way, My project is flawless, perfect, impeccable! Here, I'll say it so you can understand. Mine is way better than yours.

(In a chipper and sincere voice)

JIMMY

Petunia, what's your so called amazing project?



PETUNIA

I did an in-depth study of the Bubonic Plague.

JIMMY

That sounds nice.

PETUNIA

You can only dream about such a good project.

JIMMY

Definitely!

PETUNIA

Why are you just going along with what I say?

JIMMY

I honestly think that the Bubonic Plague is really cool, and complicated. Well, I don't mean that people dying is cool, but that as a topic, incredible!

PETUNIA

Wow, the little mouse is trying to talk to the hawk. How impressive.

(Said in a smug babying voice)

JIMMY

I'm just trying to be kind. I know you don't have the nurturing background like I do.

PETUNIA

Are you insulting my family?

JIMMY

No! Not at all. I, look, it's a long story.

PETUNIA

(Sarcastically.)

Humor me, I'm all ears.



JIMMY

When I tried my teleporting machine out, I went to a parallel universe.

PETUNIA

Wait, do you believe in the antimatter theory, or the big bang bubble bath theory?

PETUNIA AND JIMMY

Antimatter!

PETUNIA

Well, now that that's straightened out, continue.

JIMMY

So, I went to this parallel universe, right? And, well, my teleporting machine broke down. I met my uh, Parallel Jimmy, and we tried to fix it. We couldn't figure out what was wrong with it for the life of us, so we knew we had to ask the parallel you.

PETUNIA

Really?

JIMMY

Yeah! Who else "gets bored" and memorizes 300 digits of PI?

PETUNIA

Thanks, but, you're also pretty smart.

JIMMY

Wow! That means a lot to me, especially from you!

(Petunia cringes at the thought of being friends with Jimmy)

PETUNIA

Uh...um, just keep going!

JIMMY

So, Parallel Jimmy and I went to your house. And, your Mom was so busy, and it seemed like she never paid attention to you but when she did, she was quite



aggressive... But, eventually, you fixed our machine. I was able to get back, and here I am.

(The cafeteria doors open. Mr. and Mrs. O'Cranium burst through the doors. Mr. Brikford, who is slouching, straightens up and fixes his tie. Mr. Brikford clears throat)

MR. BRIKFORD

What do you think you're doing?

MRS. O'CRANIUM

We are rescuing our missing son.

MR. BRIKFORD

Excuse me? I just assumed that he came here by himself because you two didn't care about this science fair.

(At this point, many of the parents, children, and judges start filing back into the cafeteria. They seem impressed at what Jimmy has done)

MR. O'CRANIUM

You can't just *assume* things, he has been missing!

(Mr. Brikford rolls his eyes)

(Mr. and Mrs. O'Cranium start crying and hugging Jimmy)

JIMMY

It's okay. I wasn't kidnapped, and I didn't run away. I just was testing out my teleporter.

MRS. O'CRANIUM

Oh my, what happened?

JIMMY

I got stuck in a parallel universe but, I promise, I'm fine. I should have told you before I left.

MR. BRIKFORD

That's right! Eleanor, I don't know how you've raised this boy, but what you have done with him is certainly wrong. (In a whisper tone) By the way your hair looks really nice



today.

(Mrs. O'Cranium touches her hair in shock and takes a step back)

MR. O'CRANIUM

(clears throat)

That is my wife you are speaking to. Anyway, it's not up to you to mention personal matters.

MRS. O'CRANIUM

You know what? Our relationship has been over for twenty-five years. Give it up already.

JIMMY

What!?! You two dated?! Ew!

PETUNIA

Yeah, even / think dating Mr. Brikford is appalling.

MR. O'CRANIUM

Petunia, can we please have some privacy with Mr. Brikford?

(Petunia stomps off)

Look, Mr. Brikford, I don't care about what happened in the past, all I care about is making sure that my son gets an education.

MR. BRIKFORD

Fine, whatever, now if you'll excuse me, I have to go to the judges table.

(Mr. Brikford begins to walk away into his "safety" corner. Although it doesn't seem like what they said sunk in, Mr. Brikford is now ashamed for how he treated Jimmy)

All this time I always thought Petunia was the star student while Jimmy was trying to steal her glory. But this whole time Jimmy was just trying to be a good student and not actually like his greedy father. I need to let go of the past and accept that Jimmy is another bright student.



PETUNIA

Oh Mr.Brikford, I didn't really mean it when I said you were appalling. I think that you are the best teacher an accelerated student could have.

(Petunia wrinkles and sticks her nose into the air)

(Mr. Brikford smirks at Petunia and then walks to the judges table)

MR. O'CRANIUM

Hey, Jimmy, I want you to know that we would be happy to take you home. You've had quite the outing, and I know we need to sort things out, about your-

PETUNIA

Rude excursion.

(Mr. and Mrs. O'Cranium share an annoyed expression)

MRS. O'CRANIUM

Petunia! *That* was very rude. Jimmy, let's go home. Mr. Brikford can shoot us an email on who won.

JIMMY

Oh, that won't be needed. I am a hearty fellow, and I don't want to disappoint Mr. Brikford.

(Mr. Brikford steps up to a podium in the middle of a makeshift stage)

MR. BRIKFORD

Attention parents and students, the panel of judges has determined the winner.

MRS. O'CRANIUM

Oh, I can't wait I just know my little genius will win!

PETUNIA

Uhh, excuse me but obviously the Bubonic Plague is a much more advanced and interesting topic than teleportation.



MR. BRIKFORD

Ok, everyone, the third place prize goes to... Luke Smith, who did the lemon juice experiment!

(The crowd cheers and claps)

MR. BRIKFORD

Ok, calm down everyone, it's not that exciting. Great job, etcetera, etcetera. Now, second place goes to... Petunia Goodwinn for a study on the Bubonic Plague!

(The crowd cheers and claps again. Mr. Bikford looks like he is a little confused about how to feel. He doesn't know if he should be angry that Petunia didn't get first place, or proud of Jimmy's amazing project)

MR. BRIKFORD

Great job Petunia!

JIMMY

Congrats!

(Mr. Brikford looks at Petunia in a sad and apologetic way)

PETUNIA

What!?! This is preposterous!

MR. BRIKFORD

Ok, finally, the first place winner of the Pi Day Science Fair is... Jimmy O'Cranium with an extraordinary original design of a teleporting machine! I hereby award you with twenty homework passes.

(Crowd roars with excitement, cheers and claps. Jimmy walks up to the podium)

JIMMY

Thank you but, I won't be needing these, I have already completed this year's worth of homework. So I will gladly give these homework passes to Luke and Petunia.



MR. O'CRANIUM

Oh, we're so proud of you son. We knew you would win, we just hoped you didn't have to clone yourself again to do it. And you didn't, you only messed with the fabric of time and risked your life while doing it.

(Petunia stomps off into the crowd and walks over to Jimmy.)

PETUNIA

Wow. I can't believe that you cheated like that! When you asked for some privacy with Mr. Brikford, your parents bribed him into making you win! If your parents weren't here, I would've won!

JIMMY

No, my parents didn't bribe anyone. All that happened was my project was, well, more what the judges were looking for.

(In a whispered tone)

JIMMY

When I went to the parallel universe, I saw that your mom was really busy, but I want you to know, I can be your friend, and I can be there for you. Your super smart, and your mom just hasn't realized that.

PETUNIA

Seriously?

JIMMY

Yes! You are so perfect, you can get a little aggravating!

PETUNIA

Hey, you're the one who is so perfect! It annoys me so much!

JIMMY

Let's accept that we are both smart. We both want to be the best that we can be, so let's not judge ourselves based on each other.



PETUNIA

That sounds like a plan to me.

JIMMY

So let's get this PI party started!

(Petunia and Jimmy run over to the refreshments table. Jimmy sprays whipped cream in his mouth. The two begin to joyfully eat pie)

THE END