



The Story Pirates Podcast
Season 3
Episode 8

[BOAT HORN]

SFX: Beep boops, power tool sounds.

>> RACHEL: Alright Loofah just a couple more final touches and we've got ourselves a brand new state-of-the-art SimulRoom. Now we can program the Simulroom look and feel like anything in the world! All we have to do is set this dial to whatever place we want this room to become!

SFX: Loofah sounds

>> RACHEL: Why does it matter?! Are you kidding? We could use this for training exercises, learning opportunities, educational purposes-

SFX: Loofah sounds

>> RACHEL: Yes Loofah. We can also use the SimulRoom to make it look and feel like we are surrounded by a thousand floofy dogs OF COURSE. Alright let's get outta here. I'm just gonna set the dial for "Talent Competition."

SFX: Loofah sounds

>> RACHEL: What's that? You think I should warn everyone that I made this room so that no one wanders in here by mistake and thinks it real? Nahhhh. Come hop on my shoulder.

SFX: Loofah

>> RACHEL: Let's go!

SFX: Door closing



>> RACHEL: (*Getting quieter.*) Loofah have you ever seen Stark Trek?

SFX: Loofah sounds

>> RACHEL: Yeah neither have I.

>> PETER: *Getting louder.* No one appreciates me! Everyone treats me like I'm just a big joke. The "snack" guy. But I'm so much more than that, I know it!! Oooh what's this room? I've never seen it before and the door looks very official like I'm not supposed to enter. Gonna enter!

SFX: Door open

SFX: Bustling coffee shop

>> PETER: A big coffee shop? What's that sign say? Talent competition colon: make people appreciate you by showing off your talents and winning prizes?? Whoa. This seems too good to be true. It MUST be REAL.

>> SIMON: Peter, thank goodness you're here.

>> PETER: Huh?

>> SIMON: I'm Simon, the emcee for tonight's talent competition.

>> PETER: Huh?!

>> SIMON: Petey... you're up next!

>> PETER: HUH?!

[THEME SONG BEGINS]

[BOAT HORN]



>>KID: I love Story Pirates!

>>KID: I like my story. (laughs)

>>KID: Don't write for other people just write for yourself.

>>KID: Alright!

>>KID: Just go for the imagination.

>>KID: This is weird.

>>KID: I just wanted to make a funny part.

>>KID: Sheep, get out of here, we're trying to finish a story.

>>KID: The Story Pirates.

[THEME SONG ENDS]

[BOAT HORN]

>> PETER: Welcome back to The Story Pirates Podcast, where we take stories written by kids and turn them into sketch comedy and songs!

>> SIMON: Peter come on, you gotta go up on stage!

>> PETER: But I didn't even sign up!

>> SIMON: Yes you did, I have your name right here on the sign up sheet. Right now, get up on stage. Ho!

>> PETER: But I don't even have a talent!

>> SIMON: Well then you better think of one fast!



>> PETER: Okay, but uh first, a story?

>> SIMON: Ah, a pre-show ritual. Something to soothe your nerves. I get it. Sure, whatever you need to do! Ok, go.

>> PETER: Listeners, have you ever felt small? Have you ever felt smaller than small? Have you ever felt SUB ATOMIC SMALL? Well, then you can relate to these next characters, because they're QUARKS. What're quarks? Honestly I'm not totally sure. But here to introduce it is the author!

Hi, my name is Aziah, I'm nine years old and I live in Australia. This is my story, Quark Power!

QUARK POWER

MUSIC: Guitar Strumming

>> NARRATOR: Once upon a time there was a galaxy.

And in that galaxy,

there was a solar system.

And in that solar system,

There was a planet.

And on that planet,

There was a continent.

And on that continent,

there was a country.

And in that country there was a state,

And in that state there was a town,

And in that town there was a house

And in that house there was a person made of atoms!



And in those atoms,
There were,
QUARKS!

But these were no ordinary quarks.
They were
Super quarks!
Flying around, zapping germs.
Super quarks!
Flying around, zapping germs.

One day, super quark was flying around!
Saw a germ taking candy off a baby.
Super Quark didnt like that.

>> Super Quark: Hey, give it back!

>> Narrator: He bellowed at the germ, but the germ didn't like that.
He looked up and yelled

>>Germ: No chance Quarky!

(Zapping sounds. Drum solo.)

>>Narrator: Super Quark!
He flew down and zapped that germ.
Super Quark!
Got a medal. For his bravery!
Super Quark!
This Quark is not ordinary.



And the atom

>> Super Quark: was saved

>>Narrator: In the person

Fine!

>>Narrator: In the house!

Ah!

>>Narrator: In the state.

In the country!

In the continent,

on the planet!

In the solar system,

in the galaxy!

Sing with me!

>>Narrator: Super quarks!

Flying around, zapping germs.

Super quarks!

Flying around, zapping germs.

Super quarks!

Got a medal, for his bravery.

Super quarks!

This quark is not ordinary.



Super Quark.

Peter talks about the story...

>> PETER: Loved it. Wow it's weird talking about how much I love a story without everyone else here. Oh well.

>> SIMON: Okay folks, this next talented competitor is a real talented treat. From what I can tell, he's super talented and his talent will surprise *everyone*. Please welcome, the next talent competitor in our big talent competition, the very talented, Peter!

SFX: Audience clapping

>> PETER: Uh oh. I don't know what my talent is. Think, Peter, think. What're you good at? Eating snacks? No, that's not a talent. Or is it? Wait a second. It is. I can do this.

SFX: Mic feedback

>> PETER: Hi everyone. I'm Peter. Sir, yes you sitting down in front. Can you throw a piece of your popcorn up into the air?

>> SIR: Um...sure. Here you go.

Peter chomps

>> AUDIENCE: Gasp!

>> SIR: He caught it in his mouth!

SFX: Audience applause



>> PETER: Ma'am all the way back there, can you throw a piece of popcorn up here?

>> MA'AM: Yup! Comin' atcha!

Peter chomps

>> AUDIENCE: Gasp!

>> SIR: He did it again!

SFX: Audience applause

>> PETER: And now, for the grand finale, can you both throw popcorn at the same time?

>> SIR/MA'AM: Ok. Here it comes!

Peter chomp chomps

>> SIR: He caught them both even though they were nowhere near his mouth!

SFX: Audience applause, standing ovation

>> PETER: Thank you, I've been Peter!

SFX: Huge audience applause

>> SIMON: (into mic) Wow, that was the most talented talent I've ever seen! I know we're just getting started but, know what? Peter is the winner! Everyone else go home, talent competition night is canceled indefinitely!! Finished! (off mic) Peter wait! Peter!

The host runs off the stage

>> PETER: Huh?



>> SIMON: Peter, I have a confession to make. I'm not just the emcee at a local coffee shop's talent competition night. I'm also... Simon McSimonson.

>> PETER: Simon McSimonson?! ...who's that?

>> SIMON: You're kidding my, right? You don't know Simon McSimonson? THE Simon McSimonson? The only Simon McSimonson? I used to be the biggest talent manager on the scene! I took acts straight to the top. I know talent when I see it, and kid, you've got it. I mean, I've never seen an act like that before! What're you doin' playin coffee shops? You should be out on the road man, selling out arenas! Out there on the circuit!

>> PETER: But I do a podcast with my friends in space!

>> SIMON: Podcast? BLEGH! Peter, baby, you're talking pennies, I'm talking pounds. And you don't need friends. You're a solo act, I can tell.

>> PETER: I guess. I have been feeling like they don't respect me.

>> SIMON: See what I mean? You can forget them. Forget everything about your past life. I can make all of your wildest dreams come true. Come on Peter, all you have to do is sign this contract, and I'll make you the biggest star in the world.

>> PETER: Wow, that contract is really long.

>> SIMON: Oh, sorry, wrong paperwork. This is for my mortgage. I don't have my glasses.

>> PETER: New homeowner?

>> SIMON: Yes!

>> PETER: Congratulations!



>> SIMON: Thanks so much! It's like good stress? But anyways, here we go. Just sign this contract, and I'll make you the biggest star in the world.

>> PETER: Wow, that contract is... surprisingly short. OK!

SFX: Signing

>> SIMON: Welcome to showbiz, Peter. Wait, no, that was your old name. You are now Peter Peter Popcorn Eater!

MUSIC: News sting

>> NEWS REPORTER: Everyone everywhere is buzzing with affection for newest rising star Peter Peter Popcorn Eater, whose popcorn catching tricks have taken the world by storm. His coffee shop performance last night has gone viral on the Internet-

>> NEWS REPORTER 2: Peter Peter Popcorn Eater's star continues to rise as he heads out on a world tour-

>> NEWS REPORTER 5: I'm here today with Peter Peter Popcorn Eater, the number one biggest celebrity in the world! Ok so, Peter, the Peter Cinematic Universe film franchise is the number one film franchise in history. Is there anything you'd like to say to your fans out there?

Peter is now a major diva.

>> PETER: Sorry, I'm busy. Please, no photos.

SFX: Papparazzi flashes

>> SIMON: Hey, hey, he said no photos. Back, you vultures! Back! Peter Peter Popcorn Eater has a big show tonight! He needs room to prepare! You're gonna get him out of his zone!

MUSIC: Gliss



>> SIMON: Well, Peter, it's the night of the big show. What do you say we get out there and knock their socks off? What do you say? What do you say?

>> PETER: I'm not finished getting ready!

>> SIMON: No, of course not, I would never rush you. You're my big star!

>> PETER: Assistant! Fetch me my lemon water.

>> SIMON: Assistant! Lemon water!

>> ASSISTANT: Of course Mr. Popcorn Eater.

>> PETER: Now hold it for me while I sip.

>> ASSISTANT: Of course.

Peter slurps.

>> PETER: I'm sweating! Someone fan me, now.

>> ASSISTANT: Yes, sir.

>> PETER: Fan me!

>> ASSISTANT: Yes! Yes! Fanning you now.

>> PETER: Thank you. Are my tiny gourmet hot dogs on their way?

>> ASSISTANT: Yes, of course.

SFX: Knocks



>> SIMON: Oh. Peter, there are four... *regular* people here to see you?

>> PETER: *Regular* people? Who, praytell?

>> MEGHAN: Peter it's us!

>> PETER: Who is "us?"

>> LEE: Meghan and Lee and Rachel and Nimene!

>> ALL: Hey Peter!

>> PETER: Well, well, well. If this isn't like staring at the past.

>> SIMON: Alright, no autographs before the show, Peter, shall I rid you of these groundlings?

>> PETER: No no, let them speak their peace. Why have you come?

>> MEGHAN: We miss you!

>> NIMENE: The Title Wave hasn't been the same since you left.

>> LEE: We wanted to ask you come back.

>> PETER: Come back? After all I've seen and done? You never appreciated me then and now you just want to hitch a ride on my shooting star.

>> MEGHAN: Peter, we always thought you were a star! But that's not why we miss you. We miss you because you're our friend.

>> PETER: Too little too...late. My manager will show you the door.

>> SIMON: THAT'S the door.

>> Lee: Ummm... that's a window.



>> SIMON: Oh. THAT'S the door!

>> LEE: Refrigerator.

>> SIMON: Oh gosh, I'm so sorry, I don't have my glasses. Could you just go back out the way you came in? Thank-EEEE.

>> NIMENE: Peter wait!

SFX: Door slam

>> PETER: Make sure they leave the premises.

>> SIMON: Of course.

>> PETER: I never want to see them again.

>> : We'll be right back.

MIDROLL

>> : And now back to the show!

MUSIC: News sting

>> NEWS REPORTER 1: Is Peter Peter Popcorn Eater a Peter Peter Popcorn *Cheater*. News reports are claiming the plot of his new movie Popcorn Fast & Furious is stolen!

>> NEWS REPORTER 2: Peter Peter Popcorn Eater's third studio album, Peter Peter Popcorn *Singer* has been panned by every single critic in the world.



>> NEWS REPORTER 3: Today on the show, world popcorn markets continue to fall today. Will increased tariffs on caramel popcorn mean we all have to eat that gross cheese popcorn put in the holiday popcorn tins?

>> NEWS REPORTER 4: Peter Peter Popcorn Eater, he was once the biggest star in the world, but where is he now? No one knows.

Music cuts out.

SFX: Heartbeat monitor

Peter is old now

>> PETER: What has become of my life. I hardly recognize myself. Where *am* I now? You. You did this to me.

>> SIMON: Me? I did what I promised. I made you a star!

>> PETER: But stars fall. Stars fall!!! And now what do I have?

>> SIMON: Uh, I dont know, how about millions and millions of dollars?

>> PETER: Money yes. But respect? Friendship?

>> SIMON: I'm your friend, Peter!

>> PETER: You only care about how much money I can make you!

>> SIMON: That's not true! Is someone paying you to say that? And how much are they paying you to say that? What's ten percent of that?

>> PETER: I gave up everything for fame and glory and now I have nothing. I should have never walked into your talent competition!

>> SIMON: Hey, I MADE you, kid!

>> PETER: Simon, I can't do this anymore. You're fired.



>> SIMON: Fired? You can't fire me! You're nothing without me! You'll regret this, kid! They always do! Where is the door? I'd like to slam it dramatically, but I don't have my glasses. Door? No, that's the fridge. Gosh, it looks so much like a door. Okay, here we go. So long, Peter Peter Popcorn TRAITOR!

SFX: Door slam

>> SIMON: *(muffled through door)* Was that the door? YES! That was the DOOR! Hello? Coffee shop? Talent competition night is BACK ON!

>> PETER: Oh what I wouldn't give to spend another moment aboard the Title Wave with my dear friends Meghan, Lee, Rachel and Nimene.

>> MEGHAN: Peter?

>> PETER: I can almost hear them now. Saying my name.

>> LEE: Peter?

>> PETER: Can you hear it? It almost too real.

>> RACHEL: Peter!

>> PETER: But it's not real. None of it is real!

Peter starts sobbing

>> RACHEL: Thats it, I'm turning this thing off.

SFX: Machine powering down.

>> RACHEL: Peter are you ok?

>> PETER: What have I done?!?!



>> RACHEL: Peter! Hey, Peter! Open your eyes!

>> PETER: Wha? Where am I? Where's my mansion? My millions? My manager? My maid? My Mamma Mia memorabilia? My-

>> RACHEL: Peter, you were inside a simulation!

>> PETER: Huh?

>> ALL: Yeah huh?

>> RACHEL: I built a SimulRoom on the ship so we can do training exercises and, you know, take vacations without taking vacations.

>> PETER: So none of that was real?

>> RACHEL: No!

>> PETER: I didn't catch popcorn in my mouth for 20,000 people at Madison Square Garden?

>> ALL: No!

>> PETER: Oh I'm so happy! I'm sorry I was mad at you guys and then I came in here and I lived a whole lifetime and well... I was wrong to ever think that I didn't need you guys.

>> LEE: Aw, thanks Peter! Come on, let's go watch a movie or something! I made popcorn.

>> PETER: *Shudders*. I think I'll skip the popcorn. Can we do another story though?

>> ALL: Yeah!

>> LEE: Okay listeners, this next story is about a contest! And in this contest you have to s-p-e-l-l. Here's the author to introduce it!



>> Nyla: Hi! I'm Nyla, I'm nine years old and I'm from California. This is my story, "Spelling Snakes".

Car pulling to a parking space.

Bright and ambitious music. 80's synth and horns.

>> PIPER: We finally made it to the park! Mom, could you have driven any slower?

>> JAZZEY: I was just being careful! It's not every day that my daughter, Piper the Boa Constrictor is a contestant in the World Famous Spelling Bee!

>> CORNY: Actually Mrs. Constrictor...

>> JAZZEY: Corny, please. You're my daughter's best friend. You can call me Jazzey!

>> PIPER: Can I call you Jazzey?

>> JAZZEY: Not until you're in college.

>> PIPER: Whatever.

>> CORNY: So ACTUALLY Jazzey, Piper and I aren't entering a Spelling Bee.

>> PIPER: Yeah mom, everyone knows that Bees can't spell.

>> JAZZEY: That's why those bees at work can't do the crossword.

>> CORNY: We're entering the world famous Spelling Sssnakes!

>> PIPER: The world's premier spelling competition! As a snake, it's always been my dream to win it, and this is the year I'm going to do it!

>> JAZZEY: Well you've been coiled up in your room, studying non-stop, so I think you're a shoo-in to win!



MUSIC: Curious/inquisitive

>> JAZZEY: Piper?

>> PIPER: (muttering to herself)

>> JAZZEY: PIPER CAN YOU HEAR ME?!

>> PIPER: Ah! Sorry, I was deep in thought thinking of each word I know and how to spell them. Anyway, we should get going. The big tent where the competition is right over there.

>> JAZZEY: Well good luck, Piper! Corny, you're competing too right?

>> CORNY: Technically, yes. But I'm pulling for Piper all the way!

>> PIPER AND CORNY: (in unison) Bye Mom/Jazzey.

As Piper and Corny go towards the tent, we hear slithering/rattling sounds.

>> PIPER: Woah, look at how large the tent is! I can't see an entrance anywhere.

>> FAIRLY HANDSOME PORCUPINE: Excuse me, are you looking for the entrance to the Spelling Sssnakes?

>> PIPER: Yes! Wait, who are you?

>> FHP: Who me? Why I'm.....

MUSIC: saxophone flourish.

>> FHP: A fairly handsome porcupine!

>> CORNY: Cooooool.



>> PIPER: Hi! Do you know where the entrance to the tent is? I'm competing this year, and I really don't want to miss the competition!

>> FHP: Then slither along and follow me! All of the other contestants are on stage, and it's about to start!

>> PIPER: Ah! Well let's go!

>> FHP: The entrance is just beyond this curtain.

Slithering/rattling as they make their way into the tent. As they enter the tent, the sound of an audience swells.

>> CORNY: Woah, this place is massive! They've got over 100 spotlights for the stage alone!

>> PIPER: Look at those bleachers! They must fit over 10,000 people!

>> FHP: And don't forget the most impressive part: the million light laser show!

Laser sounds

>> PIPER AND CORNY: WOAHHHHHHH!

>> FHP: Well, we've made it just in time! You should be able to find your specific podium on stage. Good luck!

>> PIPER: Thank you, Handsome Porcupine!

>> FHP: Please, I'm FAIRLY handsome. Goodbye!

Same "Baker Street" sax sting

>> PIPER: Let's get on stage!



>> PIPER: There are so many other contestants here! BAH! I'M FREAKING OUT!

>> CORNY: Hey! Whenever you get nervous, just look over at me for our secret signal. Remember, tongue out...

>> PIPER & CORNY: Hissing

>> CORNY: Wink.....

Tinkerbelle bell

>> PIPER and CORNY: And don't forget to smile!

>> PIPER: Thanks Corny! Oh, it's about to start!

Audience grows quiet. People being shushed

MUSIC: Similar to "Roundball Rock"

>> ANNOUNCER: Ladies and Gentleman, welcome to the 16th annual Spelling Sssnakes! Now please welcome your host, the most fabulous, incredible, and socially well respected host in the world: Gabby the Gerbil!

>> ALL: Audience erupts in applause

>> ALL: "We love you Gabby!" etc.

>> GABBY: Oh, for me? Thank you, thank you! No, YOU'RE the world's greatest host haha. No, it's actually me. We know that?hhh What an introduction! Welcome everyone, to Spelling Sssnakes. Today, we'll be figuring out which contestant is the best speller in the entire world! Before we start, let's meet our contestants. First up, Richard the Walrus!

>> RICHARD: Arf, arf. Hello!



>> GABBY: Melanie, the Praying Mantis.

>> MELANIE: Yes yes yes, thank you!

>> GABBY: Corny the Rattlesnake!

>> CORNY: Hello, hello!

>> GABBY: And finally, Peeper the Boa Constrictor!

>> ALL: Audience laughs

>> PIPER: Oh no! She got my name wrong! This is so embarrassing!

>> GABBY: Ah! Sorry, that's PIPER the Boa Constrictor.

>> ALL: It's okay Gabby / We love you Gabby! / etc.

>> GABBY: Oh stop! Thank you, you're too kind. Let's begin. Contestants, you will each have the opportunity to spell a word to score a point. The first to reach 3 points will become the Spelling Ssnakes champion! Now, here's your first word ...Thesaurus.

>> PIPER (to self): Thesaurus! I know that word! I just have to focus, and hope that no one else gets the word before I do.

>> GABBY: Richard, you're first.

>> RICHARD: Thesaurus. T-H-A...

Buzzer



>> GABBY: Melaine, it's your turn.

>> MELANIE: Thesaurus. T-H-E-Z...

SFX: Buzzer

>> GABBY: Now to you, Corny.

>> CORNY: Okay, dictionary. D-

SFX: Buzzer

>> GABBY: Corny, the word is not Dictionary. It's Thesaurus.

>> CORNY: Ohhhhhh, right. Sorry! I usually read my dictionary, so I must have gotten confused.

>> GABBY: Piper, you're up!

>> PIPER: Thesaurus, thesaurus. C'mon Piper, focus and you got this. T-H-E-S-A-U-R-U-S!
Thesaurus!

Ding ding ding!

>> GABBY: Correct! 1 point for Piper!

>> PIPER: Yes! Gotta cha-cha to celebrate.

Cha-cha music

>> CORNY: Great job Piper!

>> PIPER: Thanks Corny!



>> GABBY: Contestants, your next word is....acknowledgements.

>> PIPER (to self): Hm, that's a tough one. Good thing I always read the acknowledgments in the back of my atlas!

>> GABBY: Richard, you'll start this round.

>> RICHARD: Acknowledgements. Ummmmm....E?

Buzzer

>> GABBY: Close! Melanie, you're up again.

>> MELANIE: Acknowledgements. A-K?

Buzzer

>> GABBY: No. It's your turn, Corny.

>> CORNY: Corny. C-O-R..

Buzzer.

>> GABBY: No, Corny. Not your name.

>> CORNY: You can see how I got there though, right?

>> GABBY: No. Piper?

>> PIPER: Acknowledgments. A-C-K-N-O-W-L-E-D-G-M-E-N-T-S. Acknowledgments!



Ding ding ding

>> GABBY: That's correct, and that's another point for Piper! She just needs 1 more point to become the Spelling Ssnakes champion! The next, and potentially final word is ...introduction.

>> PIPER: Introduction, introduction. Oh no, I'm getting really nervous! Everyone is looking at me, and I don't want to fail now.

>> GABBY: Richard?

>> ROBERT: I don't know that word, but I do know business. See, I'm an entrepreneur....

Buzzer.

>> PIPER: Oh no! I'm not going to be able to spell this word! What do I do?

>> GABBY: Melanie?

>> MELANIE: Can you use it in a sentence and also spell it?

Buzzer

>> GABBY: Corny?

>> CORNY: Pass!

>> GABBY: Okaay, Piper?

>> PIPER: (nervous sounds)

>> CORNY: Don't be nervous Piper! Just remember: tongue out....



>> PIPER & CORNY: Hissing

>> CORNY: Wink....

Tinkerbelle bell

>> PIPER and CORNY: and don't forget to smile!

>> PIPER: I love to write intros in my books! Introduction. I-n-t-r-o-d-u-c-t-i-o-n.

Ding ding ding, fireworks, laser noises.

>> ALL: Hooray etc.

>> MUSIC: More inspirational "Roundball Rock"

>> GABBY: That is correct! Piper is our winner! Congrats Piper! Is there anyone that you'd like to thank for this tremendous victory?

>> PIPER: Yes! First, I'd like to thank my Mom, Jazzey, for driving me here!

>> JAZZEY (in the distance): I love you honey and I'm waiting in the car!

>> PIPER: The Fairly Handsome Porcupine for showing me how to get in here!

>> FHP (in the distance): Ha ha! Happy to help!

>> PIPER: And most importantly, my friend Corny! I couldn't have done it without you. Hey Corny, do you know how I spell "best friend"?

>> CORNY: I literally have no idea.



>> PIPER: C-O-R-N-Y.

>> CORNY: Hey, that's my name!

>> PIPER: It sure is, best friend. Gimme a hug!

>> CORNY: Yay oh wait you're a boa constrictor NO THAT'S TOO TIGHT.

>> PIPER: Sorry! THE END!

>> PETER: And now Lee speaks with the author.

>> Neela: Hello.

>> Lee: Hey Neela. It's Lee from the Story Pirates.

>> Neela: Hi

>> Lee: So how did you come up with Spelling Snakes? What was your inspiration?

>> Neela: I was on a road trip and we were listening to an audio book and it was about a spelling bee. So that must've inspired me. And then I was thinking about competition.

>> Lee: Okay. Are you a good speller?

>> Neela: Yeah. I think so.

>> Lee: And have you ever competed in front of a crowd before?

>> Neela: No. But tomorrow, I'm gonna be in a climbing competition.

>> Lee: Really? What does that mean?

>> Neela: I'm gonna drive to Santa Cruz and compete against a lot of other people.



- >> Lee: You can drive?!
- >> Neela: No, I can not drive.
- >> Lee: (Laughing) Okay. So you probably, you have a, someone driving you?
- >> Neela: Yes, my mom or dad.
- >> Lee: Okay. So your mom and dad are going to drive you to Santa Cruz and then you're going to climb in a gym and it's going to be a competition.
- >> Neela: Yeah.
- >> Lee: So how do you feel about it?
- >> Neela: Nervous. And I really want to win, but I don't know if I will.
- >> Lee: Yeah. So how do you think it will feel if you don't win?
- >> Neela: Maybe upsetting, but I know that I can be in other competition and this is just my first one, and also there's a pizza place where all the climbers go and I really want to go.
- >> Lee: Can you go to that pizza place whether you win or not?
- >> Neela: Yes.
- >> Lee: Well, sounds pretty good to me. That's exciting. I'm really excited for you.
- >> Neela: Thanks!
- >> Lee: And in your story, Piper, when she's nervous, focuses on the audience, right?
- >> Neela: Yeah.
- >> Lee: What do you do when you are in a situation that you feel nervous about but you need to stay calm?
- >> Neela: I think about happy things.



- >> Lee: Huh. What's an example of a happy thing you might think about?
- >> Neela: Maybe something fun that I'm doing afterwards.
- >> Lee: Like I dunno, go to a pizza place maybe?
- >> Neela: (Laughter).
- >> Lee: Wait, I have one more question I have to ask. How did you get the idea for the fairly handsome porcupine?
- >> Neela: (Laughing) I really like animals and I just wanted to make a funny part.
- >> Lee: Well, you succeeded,
- >> Neela: (Laughing).
- >> Lee: Neela. This has been so fun to talk to you today.
- >> Neela: Yeah.
- >> Lee: Well, enjoy your pizza. Good luck in the contest and thanks for letting us perform your story.
- >> Neela: Thanks.
- >> Lee: All right, bye. Neela
- >> Neela: Bye Lee!
- >> LEE: Thanks for listening to today's episode and a big thanks to today's authors Neela and Azia. Before we go, here's today's Story Spark. Kids, write us a story about a journalist who discovers a shocking secret. Now, a journalist is someone who works for a newspaper or website or tv station, who travels around finding out what's going on in the world and reporting back to the rest of us! So write us a story from your imagination about a journalist who discovers a shocking secret and shares it with the world. Tell us what the secret they discover is,



what the world thinks when they learn the secret and what happens after the secret is revealed! Is anyone mad that their secret is out? What do people do about it? How does the journalist feel afterwards?

Grownups, as always, send in stories to storypirates.com. See you next week, bye!

The Story Pirates Podcast is a production of Gimlet Media. Executive Producers Lee Overtree and Benjamin Salka. This episode was produced by Lee Overtree, Sam Bair, MR Daniel, Peter McNeerney, Andrew Miller, Jonathon Roberts, Chad Chenail and Greg Barnett. Recording, Sound design & mixing by Sam Bair at The Relic Room in New York City. Our theme song written by Bobby Lord and produced by Brendan O'Grady. Our head writer is Rachel Wenitsky. Our staff writer is Mike Cabellon. Contributing writers are Peter Johnston, Peter McNeerney, Meghan O'Neil and Lee Overtree.

Special Guest Danni Pudi!

This episode features performances by: PJ Adzima, Kelsey Bair, Dewey Caddell, Chris De La Cruz, Sasha Diamond, Lauren Glover, Gaby Hornig, Nick Kanellis, April Lavallo, Peter McNeerney, Anna Marr, Jack Mitchell, Brendan O'Grady, Meghan O'Neill, Lee Overtree, Justin Phillips, Julia Schroeder, Rachel Wenitsky, Nimene Wureh, and Matt Zambrano.

Quark Power was written by Danny Tieger and produced by Brendan O'Grady with Vocal arrangements and direction by Jack Mitchell.

Additional recording at Voxx Studios in Los Angeles, California

Additional music by Bobby Lord.

Special Thanks to Ryan Kanutzen, Kate Linbaugh and Annie Rose Strasser

The Journal Theme is by Haley Shaw

[CREDITS MUSIC ENDS]

Boat Horn



>> LEE: Okay, it's the middle of the night, everyone's asleep, I finally have the Simulroom all to myself! I'll just set the dial to turn the Simulroom to my dream scenario, and now to open the door, my dream will be realized! Here we go!

Door opens.

Trains moving sounds and a crowd hubbub.

>> LEE: Nobody move! Oh I forgot the accent.

The crowd quiets.

>> LEE: It's me, world famous detective Lee. You can tell it's me by my big twirly mustache, tweed jacket and deerstalker cap! Now, listen up various aristocrats! No one may leave this old timey train car travelling through the mountains until I solve the mystery. The mystery of which of you farted!

Scream.

[End of Episode]