

START

SIMON

I'd give up my Xbox for a whole year if I could have my own room. Seriously. But Mom won't let me. She says I've got to be with Jake. My brother. He's... different. He has Autism. His brain is, well, ...different. He's awesome with numbers. And drawing. Check it out.

Simon heads over to the wall of drawings. Jake is unaware of the audience. He is focused on his tasks and matter-of-factly fills in the details.

SIMON

(pointing to a drawing) Citadel Hill Clock here in Halifax.

JAKE

Built under the supervision of Prince Edward Duke of Kent, 1803.

SIMON

He just has to see it once, for like a minute, then he can draw the whole thing in...what's it called...

JAKE

Scale measurement.

SIMON

Yeah, that's it. *(referring to another)* Drove to Sydney – Cape Breton, not Australia – for this one, whatever it is.

JAKE

Cossit House. 1787 unornamented wood frame neo-classical house.

SIMON

Mom calls him...not Picasso...*(to Jake)* what does Mom call you?

JAKE

The Boy Wonder.

SIMON

No, the artist.

JAKE

Frank Lloyd Wright. He's not an artist – he's an architect.

SIMON

Right, architect. *(to audience)* He has trouble with a lot of other stuff though, like reading and writing. Mom says he has trouble putting sounds to the letters: ...phonemic something... *(rolls eyes)* She's an English professor.

Cut to next page

~~DIANE ——— *(calling offstage)* Simon!~~

~~SIMON ——— Yup!~~

~~DIANE ——— Are you two almost ready?~~

~~SIMON ——— *(making no effort to get ready)* Yup!~~

~~JAKE ——— *(looks at his watch, anxious)* Hurry!~~

Diane enters.

~~DIANE — I thought you were almost ready!~~

~~SIMON — I am.~~

~~DIANE — C'mon Simon, you know I have an early committee meeting. By the time I load my exams in the car and the traffic at the rotary —~~

~~SIMON — Almost done.~~

~~DIANE — Jake?~~

She and Jake share their habitual thumbs up; Diane leaves.

SIMON *(to audience)* Me on the other hand - I'm terrible with numbers – just ask my math teacher, Mr. Pythagoras. And I suck at drawing. My art teacher will tell you that. But spelling? P-Y-T-H-A-G-O-R-A-S: Pythagoras. I won two spelling bees a couple of years ago. Mom says he got the numbers and I got the letters.

END

~~JAKE THE UNTOLD STORY OF SUPERMAN'S POWERS I CAN'T FIND IT IT'S LOST WHERE IS IT WHERE IS IT WHERE IS IT?!!~~

~~SIMON *(to himself)* Uh oh. *(sense of urgency)* It's okay, we'll find it...~~

Simon searches, Jake, so agitated and in distress he cannot help, jumping up and down with his hands over his ears, repeating 'WHERE IS IT!' over and over. Simon accidentally gets too close to Jake.

~~JAKE NOT SO CLOSE PLEASE NOT SO CLOSE!!!!~~

~~SIMON Sorry...~~

He coaches Jake.

Remember your social story: 'When I'm upset I take deep breaths.'

Jake tries to take deep breaths.

~~JAKE When I'm upset, I take deep breaths.~~

START~~DIANE~~ — Jake?

SIMON No way can he audition!

DIANE Simon.

SIMON This is so stupid!

DIANE Simon!

SIMON The show is called So You Think You Can Spell not So You Think You Can Use Numbers Instead of Letters!

DIANE Why are you so upset?

SIMON Why does everything have to be about Jake?!

DIANE What do you mean?

SIMON Everything around here is about Jake – it's like I'm invisible!

DIANE Don't say that.

SIMON 'Stay with Jake', 'Jake needs his routine'; 'Do Jake's chores', Jake needs a stupid snack!

DIANE That's not fair.

SIMON Yeah, it's *not* fair! I don't have a normal life! I can't go to the park after school, I can't have friends over here cause he's so weird!

DIANE Simon!

SIMON For once I want something that doesn't involve Jake! For once I want something that's just for *me*!!JAKE *(offstage)* Turn down the volume on your voice!!!

DIANE Now you've upset him.

SIMON SEE WHAT I MEAN ?!!! / **END***Simon storms off.*~~DIANE~~ — Simon! SIMON!