

~~LAURIE:~~ Unless you'd like to fix me up with your brother.
Now, if I became, like, part of your family . . .

~~BOBBIE:~~ He's taken, remember?

~~LAURIE:~~ The good ones go fast.

Lunch Money

Jack Neary

Comic

TIMMY: [REDACTED]

SUZANNE: [REDACTED]

A schoolyard meanie is accused of stealing the lunch money from one of his classmates. In the classroom, a trial is held. SUZANNE, a middle schooler for the prosecution, questions TIMMY, another classmate, about the incident. TIMMY walks in and points to the witness chair.

TIMMY: Uh . . . Here? . . . Should I sit here?

SUZANNE: Yes! [TIMMY starts to sit.] NOT YET! [TIMMY freezes.] You have to swear first.

TIMMY: Oh. I never swear. My mother would ground me.

SUZANNE: No, no. Not that kind of swear. Raise your right hand.

[He does.]

TIMMY: Like this?

SUZANNE: Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

TIMMY: So . . . let me get this straight . . . I'm swearing . . . without really swearing?

SUZANNE: Yes. Say "I do."

TIMMY: I do?

SUZANNE: Yes.

TIMMY: Yes what?

SUZANNE: You say "I do."

TIMMY: I do?

SUZANNE: Yes.

TIMMY: Yes what?

SUZANNE: JUST SAY "I DO!"

TIMMY: I DO!

SUZANNE: SIT! [TIMMY sits.] State your full name for the jury, please.

TIMMY: Timothy Thomas Timmons.

SUZANNE: [Approaching TIMMY.] Thank you. Mr. Timmons, would you please tell the court where you were at 11:31 in the morning on September 21st of this year?

TIMMY: Yes.

SUZANNE: Yes, what?

TIMMY: Yes, I will tell the court where I was at 11:31 in the morning on Septem . . .

SUZANNE: So tell!

TIMMY: Well . . . I was walking on the third floor of the school, past the lockers, on my way to history class.

SUZANNE: But . . . Mr. Timmons . . . 11:31 . . . doesn't that mean you were . . . late for history class?

TIMMY: Yes, it does. But I had a hall pass and . . .

SUZANNE: And doesn't that also mean that the hall was . . . empty at that time?

TIMMY: Yes, it does. Except for me. And one other person. But I had a hall pass and . . .

SUZANNE: One other person. Did you say, one other person, Mr. Timmons?

TIMMY: Yes. One other person. Plus me. Two of us. Me and one other person. Total of two. Persons.

SUZANNE: And would you describe that one other person for the court, Mr. Timmons?

TIMMY: Yes.

SUZANNE: Yes, what?

TIMMY: Yes, I will describe that one other person for the court . . .

SUZANNE: So describe!

TIMMY: It was Harlan Parmenter.

SUZANNE: That's . . . your description?

TIMMY: Yes. I figure the best way to describe him would be to tell you who he was and then you could just look at him sitting over there. [Points.]

SUZANNE: And what was Mr. Parmenter doing on the third-floor hallway by the lockers at 11:31 in the morning of September 21st of this year when he was supposed to be in class and the hallway was supposed to be completely empty?

TIMMY: Except for me.

SUZANNE: Mr. Timmons . . .

TIMMY: Because I had a hall pass . . .

SUZANNE: What was Harlan doing, Mr. Timmons?

TIMMY: [Elaborately illustrating as he describes.] He was prying open Mikey McDougald's locker and ripping open an envelope and taking money out of the envelope and putting the money in his pocket and putting the ripped envelope back in the locker and then shutting the locker and then walking away.

SUZANNE: And did Mr. Parmenter acknowledge your presence?

TIMMY: Excuse me?

SUZANNE: Did Mr. Parmenter . . . see you in the hallway?

TIMMY: Oh. Yes.

SUZANNE: And did he say anything to you?

TIMMY: Yes. He said, "If you tell anybody I did this, I will stuff you in a large Hefty bag and put you up for auction on eBay."

SUZANNE: [Smiling.] Thank you, Mr. Timmons. [To TIMMY's unseen "defense attorney."] Your witness!