

Alternate Universe

by

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EXT. STREET - DAY

SIMON WIEDEMANN is walking down a busy street in gray weather. Traffic is moderate and dozens of PEDESTRIANS of all shapes and sizes enter and leave the various shops on both sides of the road. However, some shops are boarded up, in particular the ones with huge signs saying 'Evil Hawaiians'. SIMON scratches his head as he looks at one such place immediately in front of him.

SIMON

It's closed? That's a shame, I sure  
am hungry for a pizza...

An OLD MAN (70s) with a walking stick taps on SIMON'S shoulder from behind. SIMON turns to face him.

OLD MAN

You're not around from here, are you?

SIMON

How did you know?

OLD MAN

The Evil Hawaiian places... You need  
to stay away from them. Don't think  
about eaten the food there, don't  
even think about anything pizza  
related. Move on. They're BAD news.

SIMON

Don't worry, I've heard all sorts of  
stories about the food...

OLD MAN

Ok. Hey, I recognise you... You're  
that James Ziegler, right?

SIMON

Ha no, I get that all the time. I'm  
actually his clone from a parallel  
universe!

OLD MAN

Ah, you're one of the space-traveling  
people!

SIMON

Right, right...

OLD MAN

You're not an asshole too, are you?

SIMON

I'm sorry?

OLD MAN  
It's just that James... Well he has a  
reputation...

SIMON  
Oh ok, ha. No, that's a common  
fallacy. Well, nice meeting you!

The OLD MAN walks away. Out of the corner of his eye, SIMON  
notices DAN walking towards him in the distance.

DAN  
(to Simon)  
YOU!

DAN now runs to SIMON. The latter scratches his head again,  
but harder. When close by, SIMON puts out his hand to be  
shaken. He gets ignored.

DAN  
What the hell are you doing near an  
evil pizza place, James?? Are you  
going to give me one as a present  
whilst you pretend it's a normal  
pizza, is that your game??? Then you  
laugh as I turn into a pizza???  
You're sick!

SIMON  
Relax, it's not James, it's Simon!  
I'm from another dimension!

DAN  
Oh. How did you get here then?

SIMON  
You just have to jump in a funny way.  
..

DAN  
Ha. James talked about the same  
thing!

SIMON  
Yes, that's because I told him.

DAN  
Ah. Can you teach me??

SIMON exhales deeply.

SIMON  
Do you know what pi is?

DAN

Roughly. Not exactly. You're not suggesting I need to think of pi whilst jumping?

SIMON

Close. There is a very similar number called pizza pi, that is used to calculate the ratios or whatever of pizzas. The number is different as pizzas aren't exact circles. It's very complicated.

DAN

Why didn't James mention pizza pi?

SIMON

Probably because he wasn't listening properly when I told him how I shift dimensions.

DAN

Wow. Imagine not caring about something like that...

SIMON

Well, he has other things on his mind. He's very troubled, you know? I feel bad for him.

DAN

He has had some very serious legal troubles...

SIMON

Oh, you have no idea.

DAN looks pleased.

DAN

What's pizza pi, then? It's not infinite is it?

SIMON

Sadly, yes. The better your ability to remember as many digits as possible, the better your ability to shift dimensions. I'm kind of good but not that good, so I can only shift dimensions to ones that are similar. Which is why I look like James and act like him.

DAN gives a sad smile.

DAN  
I'm so sorry you have such a terrible affliction.

SIMON looks offended.

SIMON  
What do you mean?

DAN  
James is an asshole...

SIMON  
No, that's a common fallacy.

DAN  
A common fallacy?? He pours water all over his house then absorbs it with salt, it's one of his main hobbies!

SIMON  
That's... peculiar behaviour to some, but it actually shows a deep love of physics and chemistry. He's a thinker.

DAN  
Oh. Anyway, I'd stay away from those Evil Hawaiian places, if I were you..

SIMON  
Can I have a burger?

DAN  
Oh burgers are fine.

SIMON  
Great!

JAMES taps DAN'S shoulder from behind. The latter turns to face him.

DAN  
JAMES!

JAMES  
Ah, talking to my clone from a parallel universe, I see?

DAN  
What are you doing here??

JAMES  
(casually)  
I've been stalking you...

DAN

Why??

SIMON

Just ignore him. Anyway, must go and do Earthly things...

DAN

Oh. I guess you need to jump and think of pizza pi then?

JAMES

What in God's name does that mean?

SIMON

Oh not this again.

SIMON jumps up and vanishes.