

BARFEE

Thanks Ostrovsky. You too.

OLIVE

Well, I made a dumb mistake on elanguescence.

BARFEE

No no, not really—

(lying)

I wasn't sure how to spell that one either.

OLIVE

Yeah right.

BARFEE

Yeah I totally knew how to spell that word.

OLIVE

Hey Barf—

BARFEE

Yeah?

OLIVE

Congratulations.

(OLIVE gives BARFEE a big hug.)

BARFEE

(as they hug)

Oh. Of course.

(Other KIDS come out and make fun of the hug as epilogues begin. BARFEE sometimes adds a "shut up" to them in response.)

Each character delivers his or her own epilogue — and over the course of the epilogue, the children transform into the adults they will later become, delivering the end of the speech as their grown-up selves.)

#19 – Epilogues

PANCH

Vice Principal Panch found a new passion in life. Her name was Rona Lisa Peretti. After courting her tirelessly for over two years, she took out a restraining order on him. Still, he was grateful for the opportunity to experience love.

RONA

(the first part a reference to Panch)

Rona Lisa Perretti left Putnam county for a stretch, and traveled the world to bring competitive spelling to the less fortunate. She hosted national bees in Latvia, Sweden, and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, where she fell in love with an indigenous cashew farmer and became one of the top realtors in that country.

MITCH

Mitch Mahoney discovered a new talent at the Putnam bee, so he made his community service lifelong, comforting eliminated spellers and frustrated educators across the nation. Over the years he remained in touch with scores of people he had comforted:

ALL

Dear Mitch—

(All ad lib first line of letters simultaneously. None is comprehensible above others.)

CHIP

Chip Tolentino made it through adolescence, and in the course of time came to appreciate his erection. As did many others.

MARCY

Marcy Park continued to explore the freedom of not living up to expectations. She later wrote a book called Not Living Up to Expectations. It did not live up to expectations. She is very happy.

CONEYBEAR

Leaf Coneybear has cats.

SCHWARZY

Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre won the 31st annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, on her 7th try and final year of eligibility. She went on to become Secretary of Education under President [Chastity Bono]*!

(dropping lisp)

Her speech therapy was completely successful.

**(Ad lib instruction: the name of the future president can be swapped to retain topical relevance. Keep character's politics in mind.)*

BARFEE

William Morris Barfée studied for Nationals with his new friend Olive Ostrovsky. He came in 42nd. (Top 50) In later years he grew up to be incredibly handsome and to gain fame and notoriety for his pioneering efforts in the combined scientific fields of psychiatry and podiatry, otherwise known as: *poschietry*.

OLIVE

Olive Ostrovsky reenacted the entire bee for her father in the car ride home. She grew up to be a loving and attentive parent – and the host of her own radio talk show, where every year she interviewed the runner up of the Putnam County spelling bee.*

**Alternate Olive epilogue (Sheinkin’s original that Finn found too depressing, but agreed could be offered as an alternate for those who found it perversely uplifting):*

Olive Ostrovsky went home to an empty house, an uncertain future, and a well-worn dictionary – but a strange new conviction that she would be able to face all three.

#20 – Finale

COMPANY

AT THE 25TH ANNUAL
PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

SPELLERS

WE GREW UP UNDENIABLY

BOYS

AND LOOK OUR HAIR IS THINNING.

COMPANY

OUR PAST
CAUGHT UP WITH US AT LAST.
IT WAS A VERY NICE
VERY NICE
VERY VERY VERY NICE
VERY NICE VERY NICE
VERY VERY VERY NICE
VERY NICE
BEGINNING.

RONA & MITCH

25TH ANNUAL

COMPANY

25TH ANNUAL
PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE.

(The COMPANY bows.)