



Phis's World

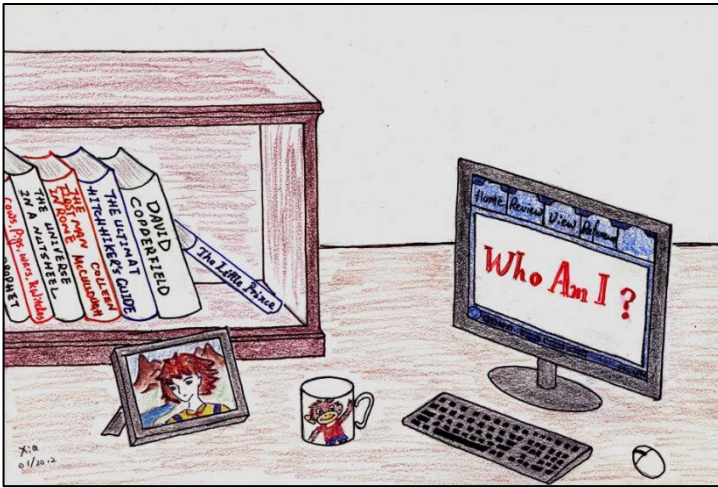
Episode 1: Phis wants to be a physicist



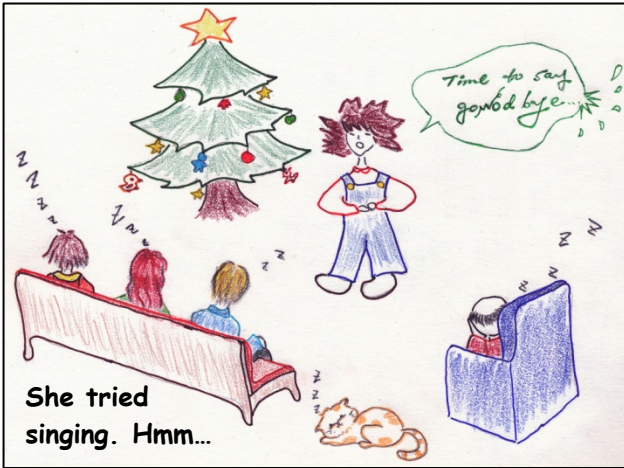
Illustration: Xia Hong

Script: Xia Hong

12/2012



This is 14 years old. Like most kids of her age, she's a bit anxious about finding the person inside her...



She tried singing. Hmm...



Dancing is definitely challenging...



Sports are also not her cup of tea...

"You are very talented, This!" Her best friend Lizzy told her.



"I wish I could be as confident as Lizzy!" This told her little sister Chemi. "Then I would know what I can do."

She's smart. She's pretty. And she is taller than me! No wonder she's so confident!



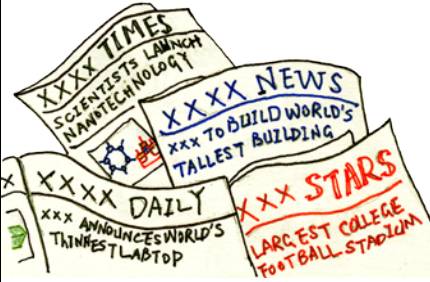
But why does height matter?!



I'm short, but I'm very confident!



"Who says size doesn't matter?" This is not convinced. "Just read the newspaper..."



"It's always good to be either really small or really big, not in between!"

Chemi



Adorable



Phis



Eh...
Something
in between



LIZZY



cool

Even her name sounds sharp — it is the same as the Lizzy in *Pride and Prejudice*!



Chemi, don't you think our names are a bit strange?

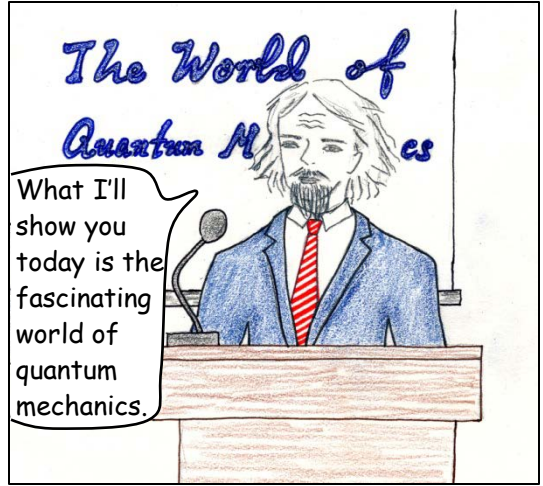
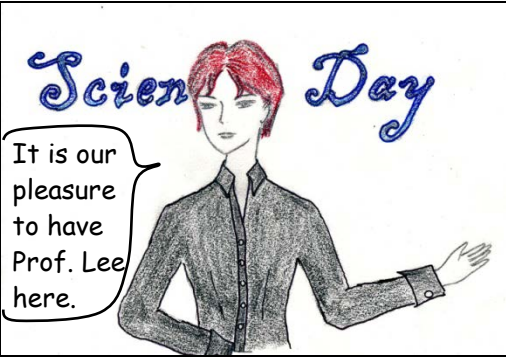
Mr. Darcy



Miss Bennet



This's self-search reached a conclusion after a monthly *Science Day* event in school hosted by Ms. Allen.



Imagine, we live in the quantum world.

Quantum →

We have to comply to its rules, and behave very differently from our normal life.



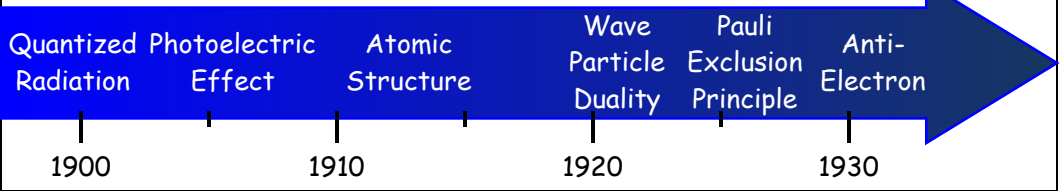
Space
Time
Motion
Energy

We no longer have a certain answer for things we take for granted...

Is light a particle or a wave?

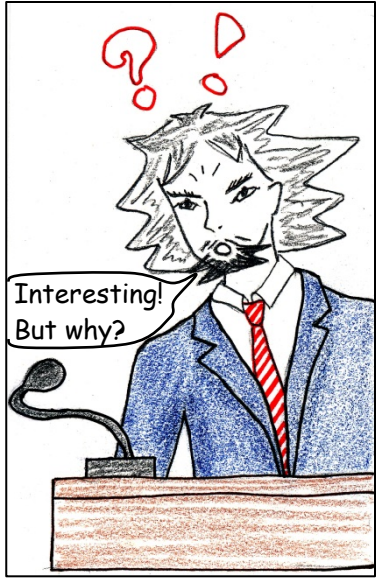
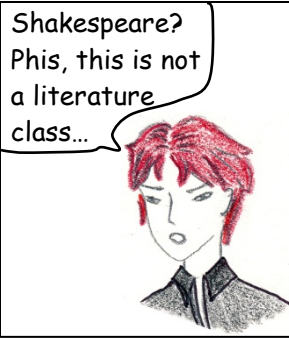
Is the cat alive or dead?

Let's first take a glimpse of this strange but intriguing world, and travel back to the early days of the quantum age.



Ludwig Boltzmann, Max Planck, Albert Einstein, Niels Bohr, Erwin Schrödinger, Antonie van Leeuwenhoek, Johannes Kepler, Heinrich Hertz, Louis de Broglie, Paul Dirac, Werner Heisenberg, John von Neumann

It took the deep observation and bold imagination of many greatest minds to lay the foundation of this field. Can any of you name one?



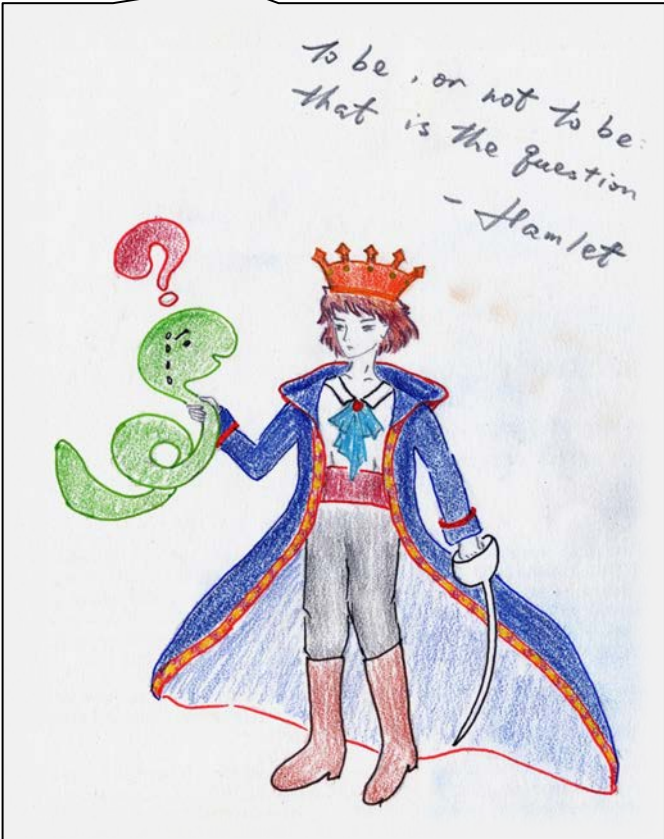
I mean the cat thing...
Didn't Shakespeare
think about this
question as early as
16xx...



Hmm,
Hamlet
did say
something
like that...



So this is the
snake that
poisoned
Hamlet's
father?



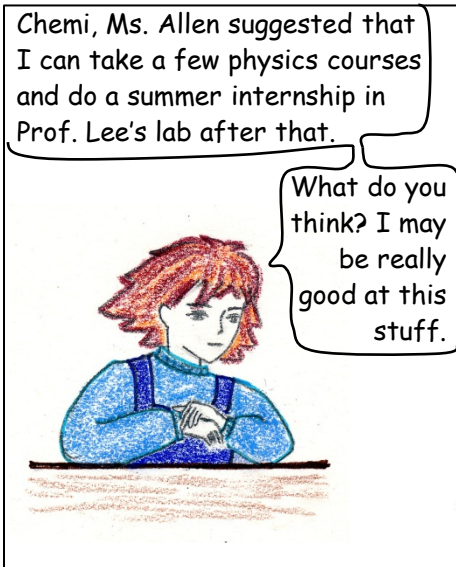
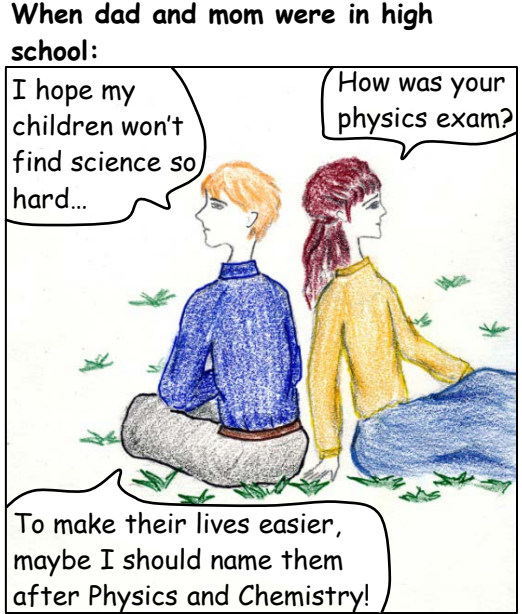
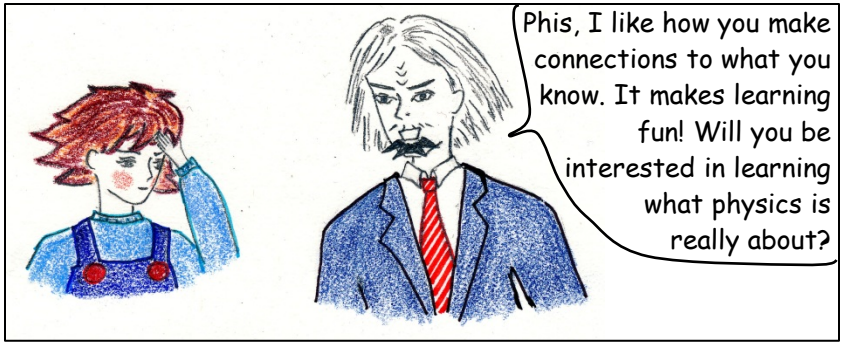
I'm not sure
that is what
Shakespeare
meant...

You're sure
that is
Hamlet? Why
does he remind
me of the
little prince?



After the lecture...

Back to home...



Electricity

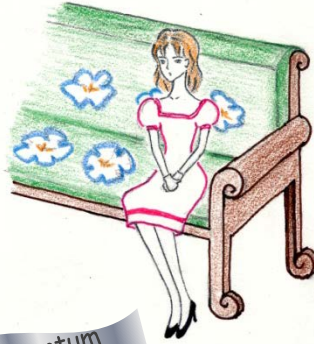


Relativity

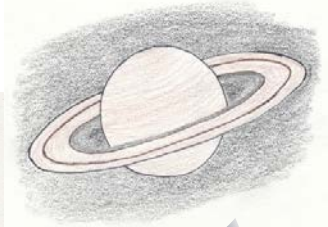


Magnetism

Quantum Mechanics

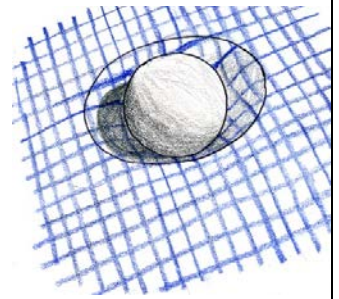


Physics? Is that it?



Gravity

Astronomy



Cosmology

Mechanics

Thermodynamics



This gave this idea a serious thought, "Why not? It's really cool. And it makes me feel very special."

Yes! I want to be a **Physicist!**



Phis's World

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To read more about the stories of Phis, please visit us at
www.physics.unl.edu/~xhong/hong/Phis/PhisHome.html.



This project is supported by National Science Foundation Grant CAREER No. DMR-1148783 and the Nebraska Center for Materials and Nanoscience.