

XAVIER RIDDLE  
and the  
SECRET MUSEUM

**"I am Temple Grandin"**

Written by  
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Lesson: "People sometimes think and do things differently."

Learned by: Yadina

Location: Massachusetts, 1953

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**1. INT. WHITE SPACE**

XAVIER pops in through a portal.

1 XAVIER  
Hi there and welcome to the show!

YADINA & DR. ZOOM pop in through another portal. As she addresses camera, BRAD enters from above, swinging on a line high above the ground with great momentum - back and forth.

2 YADINA  
Today we're meeting a super smart scientist, teacher and engineer:  
**Temple Grandin.**

Yadina gestures as a PHOTO OF GRANDIN appears.

3 XAVIER  
She's also autistic. That means she often thinks and does things differently than most people.

Brad swings right past camera, a bit out of control.

4 BRAD  
*Whaaaaa!*

5 YADINA  
Being autistic can sometimes be hard, but Temple figured out how great it is for everyone to think and do things differently.

Brad swings past camera a bit more in control, as the BIG RED BUTTON appears, rising on a pedestal WAY higher than usual.

6 XAVIER  
And now, let's push the big red button to start the show!

Xavier and Yadina turn, and look way up at the pedestal--

7 YADINA  
Hey, it's too high, we can't reach!

As Brad swings back in-- gaining more control with each swing. He eyes the big red button with fierce determination.

8 BRAD  
No need to fear. *Brad is heeere!*

On a well timed upswing, Brad drops from the line heroically and <LANDS> right on the button as we DIGITAL TRANSITION TO:

**2. INT. MUSEUM LOBBY - DAY**

PAN DOWN the museum lobby T-REX to a boy named BEN (Yadina's age) standing next to his MOTHER. PULL BACK to spot our trio sneak a peek around the door of the adjoining AFRICAN EXHIBIT.

9 YADINA  
Xavier, Brad, there he is!

ON Ben, Yadina and Xavier visible on either side in the FG.

10 XAVIER  
The new kid from your class?

11 YADINA  
(nods) His name's Ben and this is his FIRST time at a museum and my teacher says he's autistic and- I don't really know what that means.

12 BRAD  
I don't really know why we're hiding way over here...

Brad peeks at the sharp fangs of the STUFFED LION beside them and recoils nervously. Yadina remains focused on Ben--

13 YADINA  
...But I *do* know I can offer him one of (with flair) *Yadina and Dr. Zoom's amazing museum tours!* C'mon!

Yadina bounds off, followed by Xavier and Brad (with another quick glance cast at the lion, frozen in its mighty roar). Our trio race up to Ben, full of eager friendly enthusiasm.

14 YADINA / XAVIER / BRAD  
(overlapping slightly)  
Hi Ben! WELCOME TO THE MUSEUM!/  
We're gonna give you the BEST tour!/  
But let's start away from the lion.

As they talk, Ben looks overwhelmed and ducks behind his mother, holding his ears as if pained. The trio furrow their brows in confusion. Ben's Mother smiles as she steps in-

15 MOTHER (GENTLY)  
Ben's sensitive to some sounds, especially people talking to him. Maybe you can take turns telling him what you want to say? That way, he'll have a chance to hear you.

Xavier and Brad nod agreeably: *ah yes, of course!* They take a step back, gesturing, giving Yadina the floor. She steps in, trying hard to be calm, but her enthusiasm soon takes over.

16 YADINA  
(increasing volume, excitement)  
Don't worry, Ben. I know how to have the most fun in here. We'll start at the Hall of Presidents, *obviously*, then the Kid-Zone, Nature Exhibit - *that's Dr. Zoom's favorite* -and THEN-

17 XAVIER  
Yadina, you GOTTA start at the dinosaur exhibit.

Brad shakes his head and folds his arms.

18 BRAD  
Two words: *Butterfly. Conservatory.*

19 YADINA  
That's stop number twenty-three, but I'll consider bumping it up--

Meanwhile, Ben looks past them to the other side of the room. He walks off with single-minded focus, his bee-line taking him all the way to another room, where the edge of a HOT AIR BALLOON is just visible. Yadina watches him go, confused.

20 YADINA (CONT'D)  
Um... Ben? Where's he going?

Ben's Mother steps up next to Yadina, watching Ben.

21 MOTHER  
To his favorite exhibit.

22 XAVIER  
But, how can Ben have a favorite if he's never been here before?

23 MOTHER  
Because we did a *practice visit*.

24 YADINA  
*A practice visit?*

25 MOTHER  
(nods) We looked online at photos of the museum, to help Ben prepare for an enjoyable experience.

They all watch Ben approach the balloon, staring up in awe.

26 MOTHER (CONT'D)  
Ben loves balloons. (to Yadina) He  
may stay there most of the day.

Yadina turns to Xavier and Brad, a little hurt, as the mother  
heads towards her son.

27 YADINA  
...Ben didn't even listen to me.

28 BRAD  
Maybe he just does things *his* way.

29 YADINA  
Aww... but *my* way is the best. I  
know where everything is.

Yadina watches Ben gaze at the balloon. She looks troubled.  
Brad furrows his brow and looks at Xavier. Xavier wags his  
eyebrows. Xavier and Yadina share a look. Brad's eyes narrow.

30 BRAD  
Uh oh. I know that look-

31 XAVIER/YADINA  
*To the SECRET MUSEUM!*

Xavier heads off abruptly, pulling Yadina with him. Brad  
scrambles after them to catch up.

33 BRAD  
Yep, that was the look!

### 3. INT. MUSEUM / DINOSAUR EXHIBIT SNEAK THROUGH SEQUENCE

Our gang race through the museum and into the DINOSAUR  
EXHIBIT, where they all slide along a BRONTOSAURUS' BACK.

34 XAVIER  
I wonder who the Secret Museum will  
send us to meet? *Wheee!*

Xavier and Yadina jump feet first into the mouth of a T-REX!

35 YADINA  
And where we'll go! *Wa-hoo!*

A blue light flashes from within the mouth each time they  
enter. Brad closes his eyes and follows, head-first--

36 BRAD  
And wheeeeen!

**4. INT. SECRET MUSEUM - CONTINUOUS**

The kids slide down, past piles of amazing artifacts, as BERBY swirls around and <BURRS> happily.

37 XAVIER / YADINA  
Hi, Berby! / Hi, Berby.

Brad gives a short wave, then quickly returns his hand to the pole. They all land and run up a ramp, Berby floating around them, as an artifact is beamed down onto the rising PODIUM.

38 XAVIER  
We're getting something!

They reach the top and find: a BIRD KITE.

39 XAVIER (CONT'D)  
It's a- anyone know what that is?

Brad examines it closely with a raised brow-

40 BRAD  
It kind of looks like a kite.

41 YADINA  
And kind of looks like a bird. I wonder who it belonged to?

The artifact is quickly replaced by a HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE of TEMPLE GRANDIN.

42 XAVIER  
*Temple Grandin.* That's who we're going to meet!

The figure changes to a HOLOGRAPHIC GLOBE that spins backwards, landing on MASSACHUSETTS, in 1953.

43 YADINA  
In Massachusetts, in 1953.

44 BRAD  
That's almost 70 years ago!

As the image changes back to Grandin-

45 YADINA  
I hope Temple Grandin can help me show Ben around. Maybe he and I could even be friends.

46 XAVIER  
Only one way to find out... Ready  
for adventure?

47 YADINA / BRAD  
(excited) Ready! / (winces) Ready.

Our trio place their hands on Berby as it hovers over the bird kite, digitizing and sucking up it and the HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGES. In a BURST OF LIGHT:

### 5. TIME TRAVEL SEQUENCE!

An on-screen year rolls back to: 1953.

### 6. EXT./INT. GARAGE - HOUSE, MASSACHUSETTS - DAY (1953)

Our trio arrive in some bushes outside an open garage. They pull themselves out, brush themselves off, and look around.

48 XAVIER  
So this is Massachusetts in 1953.

They hear OS MOVEMENT and peer inside the garage where they spot a PILE OF MOVING KITE PARTS (cardboard, tape, string, streamer paper, etc.) It's a little unnerving.

49 BRAD  
<GASP!> What... what is it??

Berby rises up into view just as TEMPLE GRANDIN emerges from the pile, adjusting 'winglets' on the side of a kite. Berby scans her: *it's a match!*

50 YADINA  
(relieved) It's Temple Grandin!  
Thanks, Berby.

Berby <BURRS> out a "you're welcome" and zips out a portal as our trio move in quickly to the far corner of the garage, cornering Temple slightly with their radiant enthusiasm.

51 XAVIER / BRAD / YADINA  
(overlapping slightly)  
Hi, Temple! / Just thought we'd  
drop by. / Nice to meet you!

Temple gets up and quickly slides along the wall away from them, overwhelmed, eyeing them suspiciously.

ON THEM: sharing confused looks.

52 BRAD

We... didn't mean to scare you.

But Temple retreats all the way to a COUCH, maintaining eye contact with them the whole way as she slides right *into* it, and nestles under the cushions (still clearly visible lying on her side, face out, cushions on top of her).

CLOSE ON the kids as-

53 XAVIER

Wait. Did she just-

54 YADINA

-go *inside* that couch?

55 BRAD

(nodding) Yup.

56 YADINA

(curious) But... why?

ANGLE ON Brad, with Temple in the BG still watching them.

57 BRAD

(unsure) Maybe she doesn't like loud sounds? Kind of like *Ben*?

Temple nods vigorously, slightly relieved. Xavier takes note--

58 XAVIER

You're right, Brad.

Yadina approaches Temple, gently.

59 YADINA

Sorry for being loud.  
(then, holds out Dr. Z)  
Want a hug from Dr. Zoom? It always makes me feel better.

Temple pays Yadina no attention as she pulls the cushion on top of her down a little snuggler.

60 XAVIER

(to Yadina) I think Temple would rather get a hug from the couch.

At that, Temple sits up. In a THOUGHT BUBBLE above her head we see her get a literal hug from an anthropomorphic couch.

The THOUGHT BUBBLE POPS as she shakes her head and scrunches up her face, rejecting the silly notion.

61     TEMPLE  
Impossible. Couches can't give  
hugs. (shrugs) Though it might *feel*  
a bit like that.

62     YADINA  
I'll stick with Dr. Zoom hugs.

Yadina hugs Dr. Zoom to prove her point. Temple slides out of  
the couch with a <DEEP BREATH>, seeming more calm now. She  
heads over to her work on the kites. Brad leans in to X & Y.

63     BRAD  
Looks like the couch hug worked for  
Temple.

64     XAVIER  
(shrugs) I guess *people sometimes*  
*think and do things differently.*

Brad nods and regards the couch curiously. Hmm. He climbs in  
like Temple did. Xavier and Yadina exchange a look. Then-

65     BRAD  
It's cozier than you'd think.

66     TEMPLE (O.S.)  
Folks... this one is ready!

Xavier and Yadina turn to see Temple proudly holding a kite  
aloft. CLOSE ON KITE: it's shaped like a bird with streamer  
tail-feathers hanging down the back.

67     XAVIER  
(low) *The bird kite, from the*  
*Secret Museum!*

Yadina nods and they rush over to Temple.

68     YADINA  
We like your kite, Temple.

69     TEMPLE  
Thank you. This one might fly  
higher than the last one. Time to  
test it and find out.

70     XAVIER  
(excited) You're going to fly it?  
Can we come?

Temple thinks, then nods.

71 TEMPLE

Yes. I've made other kites if you want to fly one, too.

Temple points to a LARGE PILE OF SIMILAR KITES as she heads out. Yadina and Xavier regard the pile in awe.

72 YADINA

I think Temple likes kites as much as Ben likes balloons.

Xavier nods, super stoked, as they each pick a kite and follow Temple out. Then, from the couch-

73 BRAD

(muffled) Guys? ... Hello? (sits up, looks around) Hey, wait for me!

Brad scrambles out of the couch and follows OS.

#### 7. EXT. PARK - DAY

Bird kites dance in the bright blue sky. REVEAL the trio running around below them, each holding one end of a string.

74 BRAD

These kites are great!

75 XAVIER

(nods) How's your new one, Temple?

REVEAL that Temple is tying her kite string to the back of her BIKE. Yadina shakes her head.

76 YADINA

Um, Temple? That's not how you fly a kite. Try the way we're doing it.

77 TEMPLE

Everyone always wants me to do things *their* way, but I like doing things *my* way.

Temple starts pedaling her bike. Behind her -- her kite lifts off the ground and soars up, up, up -- WAY higher than the others. The trio look up, craning their necks, stupefied.

78 XAVIER / BRAD

Whoa. / Wow.

79 YADINA

(in awe) Temple sure has her own way of flying kites!

80 BRAD  
(nods) I guess *people sometimes think and do things differently.*

81 XAVIER  
Cool, 'cause her kite is *ah-mazing!*

Temple keeps pedaling, circling the bike widely, keeping the kite aloft. Yadina watches her curiously, still not sure.

82 YADINA  
It *is* cool. (to Dr. Zoom)  
But how does this help me make friends with Ben, or show him around the museum? *Unless* the Secret Museum thinks we should take him kite flying?? (pause) Yeah, I don't think so either, Dr. Zoom.

Suddenly, they hear a <SAD DOG WHINE> O.S. They look over and see a DOG sitting next to a standing DOG OWNER (older boy) by a patch of trees. Yadina gives a knowing look to Dr. Zoom.

83 YADINA (CONT'D)  
We know that sound. Someone is hun-gry.

The dog owner takes a TREAT and offers it to the dog. The dog doesn't want it and continues to <WHINE> instead. The owner furrows his brow, clearly unsure what the problem is.

As Temple continues riding around in big circles in the BG, our trio put down their kites and approach the dog owner (keeping a safe distance from the dog).

84 XAVIER  
Maybe your dog wants an ear scratch. May I?

85 DOG OWNER  
(nods) Sure. She's really friendly.  
I don't know why she's crying.

Xavier scratches the dog behind an ear, but it doesn't wag its tail. It just keeps staring off.

86 XAVIER  
I guess I don't, either.

87 BRAD  
Maybe she wants to play fetch?

Brad picks up a stick and throws it. They watch the stick hit the ground but the dog doesn't move, continuing to <WHINE>.

88 YADINA  
Good idea, but, *nope*.

The trio look like they're out of ideas. Finally, Temple pedals over and stops beside the dog. She looks at the dog thoughtfully, then looks in the direction the dog is looking.

As everyone watches on curiously, especially Yadina, Temple drops her bike and gets down on all 4's, 'walking' around where the dog was roaming. The dog tilts its head, watching.

89 YADINA (CONT'D)  
(loud whisper to X and B)  
*What is Temple doing?*

The boys all shrug, clueless, until--

90 TEMPLE  
(seeing something O.S.) Aha!

PAN with Temple as she crawls over to a tree quickly and pulls a DOG TOY out wedged deep inside the tree trunk. The dog <BARKS> happily and wags its tail.

91 TEMPLE (CONT'D)  
Here. Her toy was stuck.

Temple hands the toy to the grateful dog owner, who offers it to his happy tail-wagging pup. She <BARKS> with gratitude. Our trio light up in amazement.

92 BRAD  
That was awesome.

93 YADINA  
And smart. We never woulda thought of crawling around like that.

BRAD  
Just like we never woulda thought of flying a kite the way she did.

94 XAVIER  
Good thing Temple thinks and does things differently, huh Yadina?

95 YADINA  
Yeah, just like Ben!

MOVE IN on Yadina, as she has her a-ha moment.

96 YADINA (CONT'D)

So... I should stop trying to make Ben do things *my way*, and let him explore the museum *his way*. Because, *people think and do things differently*. And that's okay!

Berby arrives through a portal and <BURRS> in agreement.

97 BRAD

(re: the pup)  
Sometimes more than okay.

The dog <RUFFS> happily as though in agreement as she plays with her found toy. They all <CHUCKLE>. Yadina happily turns back to Temple -- as Berby quickly hides from Temple's view.

98 YADINA

We have to go now, Temple. But, thanks for your help!

99 XAVIER

And for the fun kite flying!

100 BRAD

And the couch hug.

101 TEMPLE

You're welcome, you're welcome, and you're welcome. (abruptly) Goodbye!

Temple picks up her bike and rides off, her kite trailing spectacularly behind her. Yadina smiles as she goes.

TIGHT ON our gang as they then turn to face Berby.

102 XAVIER

Berby, let's go home.

Our trio place their hands on Berby and disappear in a FLASH!

## 8. INT. MUSEUM LOBBY, BALLOON EXHIBIT - DAY (PRESENT DAY)

Ben still stares up at the balloon, enraptured. Yadina heads towards him, passing Ben's mom, who smiles at her.

103 MOTHER

I told you Ben might spend most of his time here. Did I mention he loves balloons?

104 YADINA

That's okay. He thinks and does things differently. My teacher says he's autistic.

Ben's mother nods with a proud grin.

105 MOTHER

He is. He does things his own way. Sometimes he does things I wouldn't ever think of. He's his own unique person. And I think that's great.

Yadina smiles widely.

106 YADINA

Yeah. Me, too.

Yadina goes over and stands next to Ben.

107 YADINA (CONT'D)

(gentle) Hey, Ben? Do you want to see the balloon from way up high?

Ben flashes a huge grin. He's clearly into it.

108 YADINA (CONT'D)

(excited) I'll take that as a 'yes'. Come with me!

Yadina heads off -- Ben follows right away. Yadina heads up stairs to a second level balcony that looks over the exhibit.

109 YADINA (CONT'D)

It's way quieter up here, too.

Ben is visibly more relaxed. He takes a <DEEP BREATH>, and looks over the ledge to the balloon, brightening right up.

110 BEN

It looks like a bird!

Yadina lights up at Ben's first words and moves beside him.

111 YADINA

Really?

Yadina looks down at the hot air balloon below with a squint.

YADINA'S POV: the red balloon forms the belly, while the Leaning Tower of Pisa serves as the head, an orange plaque below it as the beak, and long ropes as the tail. All together, it does look like a bird.

112 YADINA (CONT'D)  
Oh yeah! The big red balloon is the  
bird's belly...

113 BEN  
And there's the head. And it has an  
orange beak.

114 YADINA  
And the ropes look like a feathery  
tail! I guess I've never stood here  
long enough to notice before.

115 BEN  
Maybe we should stand here longer.

Yadina smiles and nods, yes.

ANGLE ON Ben's mother looking up at the two standing  
together. Yadina points out something. Ben smiles. The mother  
smiles as well, touched by the sight.

## 9. INT. WHITE SPACE

Our trio stand in the white space.

116 YADINA  
I really loved exploring the museum  
in a whole new way with my new  
friend, Ben.

Yadina gestures -- a PHOTO of her and Ben together appears.

117 XAVIER  
Just like we all loved meeting  
Temple Grandin!

A PHOTO of TEMPLE GRANDIN APPEARS.

YADINA  
It wasn't always easy being  
different, but Temple had many  
different *and* amazing solutions to  
lots of problems.

118 BRAD  
And now that she's grown up, Temple  
teaches people all about autism,  
and why it's so great that everyone  
thinks and does things differently.

119 XAVIER  
*Totally.* Thinking differently can  
lead to new and exciting ideas!

120 YADINA  
Like ways to make life better for  
farm animals.

INSERT PHOTO of happy cows in one of Temple's designed pens.

121 BRAD  
Or a machine that gives hugs.

INSERT PHOTO of a happy kid in one of Temple's hug machines.

122 XAVIER  
Or cool kite designs...

INSERT IMAGES of kites in various awesome shapes and sizes,  
Temple's bird kite amongst them.

123 XAVIER (CONT'D)  
Thanks for joining our awesome  
adventure to meet Temple Grandin.

124 YADINA  
Who used to be a kid, just like you  
and me.

125 BRAD  
So kids like you can change the  
world! I am Brad.

126 XAVIER  
I am Xavier.

127 YADINA  
I am Yadina. And I know *people*  
*sometimes think and do things*  
*differently.* Just like my friend  
Ben, and like Temple Grandin!

FOCUS ON the child version of Temple Grandin as we... **END.**