

**BUDDY**

*(to the others)*

LET'S ALL GO HUG HIM RIGHT NOW!

**ALL**

SORRY, BUT I'M ON MY BREAK!

**BUDDY**

I CAN'T EXPLAIN  
WHY I LOSE MY COOL  
EVERY TIME THAT HE COMES NEAR

I GO INSANE  
AND SCAT LIKE A FOOL  
SHOOBIE-DOOBIE-DADDY-DEAR!

**WALTER**

Buddy! Shut up!

**BUDDY**

I GUESS BY NOW YOU KNOW WHY  
MY FAVORITE GUY  
CAN TRIGGER SUCH VIGOR AND VIM  
'CAUSE WHEN I GROW UP, I'M GONNA BE JUST LIKE HIM

I love my dad!

*BUDDY sits in a chair beside WALTER's desk. The phone rings. He quickly answers.*

*(into the phone)*

Buddy the Elf. What's your favorite color?

*WALTER hangs up the phone, and moves the chair further away from the desk.*

**START**

**WALTER**

Sit down here...

*(handing him a children's book)*

Read this. I've got a lot of work to do. Please don't talk.

**BUDDY**

Dad?

**WALTER**

What?

**BUDDY**

Why is the sky blue?

**WALTER**

I don't know. It has something to do with the sun, and ultraviolet....I don't know.

*More silence.*

**BUDDY**

Dad?

**WALTER**

What?

**BUDDY**

What does a rainbow feel like?

**WALTER**

I don't know. Soft...

**BUDDY**

Dad?

**WALTER**

Buddy!

**BUDDY**

What was my mom like? Susan Welles?

**WALTER**

That was a long time ago, Buddy.

*BUDDY looks dejected. WALTER softens.*

What I mean is, we were just kids in college. We drifted apart. She never told me about....Susan was fun, full of life. You would have liked her.

**STOP**

*DEB enters, leading in MR. GREENWAY, a gruff elderly businessman carrying a bulky briefcase.*

**DEB**

Mr. Greenway, sir.

**GREENWAY**

Hobbs! My phone has been ringing off the hook. Angry mothers, kids crying, "What happened to Jingles, the Jolly Christmas Puppy"? "Did he make it to the North Pole?" "Did he ever get his magic bone?"