

I live in the tiny town of Peanut, Pennsylvania, in the second to the last house at the end of a dead-end road.	17 24
There isn't a whole lot to do in Peanut, but we do have a grocer, a baker, a hairdresser, a mechanic, AND an inventor.	42 48
It's Tommy O'Connor who put our little village on the map. He lives just down the road from me. His house is right before the dead end. A lot of people go back there, turning their cars around when they realize they're lost.	64 81 91
That's how he acquires many of his customers for his bizarre inventions. People pull onto our road, thinking it'll go on forever, but it doesn't. It stops dead in its tracks at Tommy's front door. That means booming business for Tommy.	104 122 132
Tommy has signs for his inventions posted in the ditches up and down our road and out on the freeway. Gigantic signs are nailed to telephone poles and dead tree trunks. They hang from tree branches and other people's mailboxes.	147 162 172
Tourists often stop at Tommy's house, and once they're there, they exclaim over his strange inventions. Then they pull out their checkbooks and spend big bucks.	185 198
Last spring, Tommy crossed his lawn mower with his snowmobile and used it to both clear snow and cut grass. Just a month ago, he found an old hot air balloon in the dump, hooked it up to his own car, and now he no longer has to fight traffic on the way to work. He transformed his wife's hairdryer into a miniature rocket engine and his son's Nintendo into a toaster. Last week he attempted to sell me a calculator that he'd turned into a cell phone, but I had to refuse because we didn't need any more cell phones in the house.	212 230 249 263 278 294 302
He tuned up my car for me about a week ago. The repairs it required were simple—an oil change and a refill on windshield wiper fluid. When I got it back it could go from zero to ninety in a second flat and the radio could pick up stations from around the world.	318 335 352 356

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