

Title: *I, Bruno*

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Characters: (5)

Narrator

Bruno

Ravi

Ravi/Bruno's Mom

Firefighter/Bruno's Dad

ACT I

Narrator	After school Bruno went over to Ravi's house. Ravi was his best friend. He was his best friend and he was his friend with the best toys. Ravi had a remote-controlled robot-dog. He had a two-car racetrack. He even had a real piano.
Bruno	Ravi, you have the best toys.
Ravi	You have the best toys,
Bruno	No, you do!
Ravi	You do!
Bruno	What are you talking about? This is the best racetrack. Look how fast the cars go around.
Ravi	It makes me carsick. You've got a real wizard den.
Bruno	It's not really a wizard den, it's the box the fridge came in. You've got a remote-controlled robot-dog.
Ravi	Its batteries are always dead. You've got a real dog.
Bruno	I do not! But you've got a real piano!
Ravi	Take it. Then I won't have to practice.
Ravi's Mother	Are you boys getting along?
Ravi & Bruno	Yes!
Ravi's Mother	Did you show Bruno your new model?

Ravi	Come on, Bruno!
Narrator	They ran to the dining room. The model was on the table. It was an army airplane.
Ravi	It has three hundred and sixty-one pieces. I made it with my mom.
Bruno	This is the best model airplane.
Ravi	You're right about that.
Narrator	The doorbell rang. It was Bruno's mom. Bruno showed her the model airplane.
Bruno	How long till my birthday?
Bruno's Mother	A long time.
Bruno	How long till Christmas?
Bruno's Mother	Longer.
ACT II	
Narrator	At dinner that night, Bruno asked his parents,
Bruno	Do you think if all my teeth fall out at once, the Tooth Fairy will put a model airplane under my pillow?
Bruno's Dad	No, she'll put a set of false teeth. What's going on?
Narrator	Bruno told him about the model.
Bruno's Dad	There must be an easier way to earn some money.
Bruno's Mother	Why don't you sell the toys you don't play with anymore?
Narrator	Bruno thought this was a good idea. After dinner he went to his room and looked at his toys. He decided to make two piles. One pile would be for the toys he would sell. The other pile would be for the toys he would keep. He picked up a car. One of its wheels was missing because Bruno had played with it so much. He played with it so much because he loved it. He put it in the Keep Pile. Next he picked up a stuffed animal pig from his bed. He looked at its sad pink face. Bruno put the pig in the Keep Pile too. An hour later, he came out of his room and said,
Bruno	There must be an easier way to earn some money.

Bruno's Mother	How about a lemonade stand?
Bruno	Will I have to make lemonade?
Bruno's Mother	Of course.
Bruno	That's too much work.
Firefighter	Working is a lot of work.
Narrator	Bruno looked out the window. Across the street at the fire hall, the firefighters were standing around charring. Bruno got an idea.
Bruno	I'm going to have a stand. But I'm going to sell something else.
Narrator	After school the next day, Bruno set up a table in the front yard. He put a jar on the table and waited for somebody to come by. For a long time, nobody did. Then a firefighter came over.
Firefighter	What are you doing, Bruno?
Bruno	I'm selling chats.
Firefighter	How much?
Bruno	Pay what you can.
Firefighter	Are you saving up to buy something?
Narrator	Bruno told her all about the model. When he was finished, she put a dollar in the jar. Soon another firefighter came over. He told Bruno how much he loved making models when he was a boy. After they finished talking, he put two dollars in the jar. Bruno gave him a dollar in change.
Firefighter	No, that was a two-dollar chat for sure.
Bruno	But you did most of the talking.
Firefighter	Sometimes listening is a lot of work.
Narrator	By the time Bruno's mom called Bruno in for dinner, he had five dollars. The next day he earned six dollars having chats with the firefighters. He had a chat about baseball. He had a chat about why pajamas don't have pockets. And he had a chat about the best way to drink hot chocolate.
Firefighter	Marshmallows?
Bruno	Three!

ACT III	
Narrator	In just three days he had earned enough to buy the model. But that day the firefighters put a sign up at the fire hall: <i>Food Drive Today</i> .
Bruno	Why are they driving food around?
Bruno's Mother	They're not. They're collecting food and money for people who don't have enough to eat.
Bruno	Do we have any marshmallows?
Narrator	Mom got two cans of soup out of the cupboard.
Bruno's Mother	We'll drop this off on the way to school.
Narrator	They walked across the street to the fire hall. Mom put the cans in the collection box. Bruno put the money from his chats in the box.
Bruno's Mother	Why did you do that?
Bruno	It would be worse not to have marshmallows for your hot chocolate than not to have a model.
Narrator	When Bruno got home from school that day, the model airplane was waiting for him on the table.
Bruno	Did you buy it for me?
Bruno's Mother	Yes!
Bruno	Thank you! 361 pieces! Uh oh, this looks like a lot of work.

