



If Stella wins:

Mystery component used is correct (according to your recipe)

It was all worth it. Somehow the scientist was able to determine the final ingredient needed by her invention. You stand in the lab, looking around, remembering. It was too many years ago to count. You've endured so much since you last stood in this lab, when you told the world that you could change everything. And change everything you did, however, not in the way you had hoped. In your naive mind, you had assumed the third ingredient had little importance. How wrong you were. You feel the weight of a destroyed planet lifting off your shoulders and are interrupted by someone entering the lab. You turn to face the scientist, to face yourself. Oh, how horrified she would be to know what could have been, what was. As the timeline settles into place, you feel yourself fading from existence. You smile at your younger self, tears budding, and for the first time since you unveiled your invention to the world, you feel peace.

Mystery component used is incorrect (according to your recipe)

You were too late. The scientist has activated her invention and there is no stopping it now. Everything you have worked for in the past 60 years has gone down the drain in one fell swoop. You know what is coming to the planet. You've seen this before. It was you who brought doom upon the planet all those years ago. It was you who thought you could change the world. It was you who built the machine that would bring irreparable harm to the planet. You break down, knowing that the future you came from remains unchanged, waiting for your return. You vow that this is not the end, that you will not give up. You invented time travel after all. What's to stop you from trying again?

If you win:

You've done it! Not in the way you'd hoped, but you had to ensure the safety of the planet you once loved so dearly. It's been ages since you've felt like a hero. Your life has been riddled with misfortune and wrong turns since you first decided to build a machine to save the world. Your success, however, is bittersweet. Though you have saved the planet, you know that you must return to your own damaged timeline. Your musings are interrupted, as the scientist storms frantically into the room. She glances at you in alarm, though upon the realization that her invention has been activated properly, her expression changes to that of confusion and disbelief. She demands to know who you are, but you decide to spare her the truth. She'll be better off thinking that you're some crazy old genius, rather than herself from a damaged future. You set your watch back to your own time and look once more into the eyes of someone free from the burden of total destruction.