

= There 's More Than One of Everything =

" There 's More Than One of Everything " is the finale of the first season of the American science fiction drama television series Fringe . The finale followed David Robert Jones ' ( Jared Harris ) attempts to open a doorway to the parallel universe , while the Fringe team tries to stop him . It ends with FBI agent Olivia Dunham ( Anna Torv ) discovering a startling secret about Massive Dynamic founder William Bell ( Leonard Nimoy ) .

The episode 's story was co @-@ written by Akiva Goldsman and Bryan Burk , and the teleplay was co @-@ written by Jeff Pinkner and J. H. Wyman , while Brad Anderson directed . The episode marked the first appearance of guest actor Nimoy as William Bell . Co @-@ creator J.J. Abrams , having worked with Nimoy on the 2009 film Star Trek , begged the actor to join the series through a series of phone conversations . Nimoy signed on for three episodes and found playing the character to be a " unique experience " after so many years portraying Spock .

The episode first aired on May 12 , 2009 in the United States , and was watched by an estimated 9 @.@ 28 million viewers . " There 's More Than One of Everything " received mostly good reviews , with many critics praising the revelations concerning the parallel universe . Many critics offered opinions on the depiction of the Twin Towers , with most reactions being positive .

= = Plot = =

While Nina Sharp ( Blair Brown ) recovers from the gunshot sustained in the previous episode , the Fringe team 's investigation reveals that the man in white bandages is David Robert Jones ( Jared Harris ) . Olivia Dunham ( Anna Torv ) and Phillip Broyles ( Lance Reddick ) discuss locating William Bell for questioning , whom they believe is behind all the fringe events that have been occurring all season .

Meanwhile , Walter Bishop ( John Noble ) is at a graveyard , where he solemnly stares at an unknown gravestone . Olivia , Peter Bishop ( Joshua Jackson ) , and Astrid Farnsworth ( Jasika Nicole ) begin searching for Walter . Nina tells Olivia that an energy cell was stolen from her mechanical arm by Jones , and that he was formerly a Massive Dynamic employee who had looked up to Bell as a " father figure " until they had a falling out . When Olivia demands to speak to Bell , Nina explains that she does not know where he is , as Bell has been communicating these past few months " strictly electronically " . Nina believes Jones is trying to confront Bell , and promises Olivia that if she stops Jones , Nina will arrange a meeting between her and Bell .

On a busy New York City street , Jones and his team use the energy cell to open a doorway into a parallel universe and bring a truck through , but are apparently unsuccessful , as Jones complains he used the " wrong coordinates " . Having previously observed Walter at the graveyard , The Observer ( Michael Cerveris ) arrives with Walter at the Bishops ' beach house , and gives Walter a coin , telling him to remember what he has to find . Walter goes on alone into the house , while Olivia and Charlie interview witnesses who saw Jones extract the truck from the doorway . They discover that the truck 's VIN numbers do not exist , which implies the " truck was never made " . A further interview with Nina reveals to the Fringe team that the truck is from another universe , and that Jones is using the stolen energy cell to travel to that universe .

Peter finds Walter and chooses to meet his father alone , as he believes Walter is upset from the past several days . Now at the beach house , Peter and Walter search for and retrieve a device that can seal shut the doorway into the other universe . Walter explains to Peter that he once lost something very dear to him and that he had to go and bring it back from another reality ; the device was created to prevent something from following him .

After Jones makes another unsuccessful attempt to open a doorway at a soccer field in Providence , Olivia searches through old case files related to science and unexplained phenomena , and discovers a geographic connection between the soccer field , the city street , and several of their past Fringe cases . Olivia and Walter come to the same conclusion , that Jones is going to use a site at Reiden Lake to reopen the doorway , the epicenter of these Fringe events . Olivia , Peter , and Walter intercept Jones while he is opening another window and is halfway through it . Peter triggers

Walter 's device , killing Jones by sealing the doorway .

At the end of the episode , Walter again goes alone to visit the graveyard ; he tearfully observes a gravestone marked " Peter Bishop 1978 @-@ 1985 " , suggesting that Walter 's legitimate son died . Nina Sharp later calls Olivia and implies to her that she can meet William Bell in Manhattan . On the way to the hotel she almost gets into a car crash , at which point she is transported to the parallel universe . After no one shows up at the hotel restaurant . Olivia leaves , as she assumes that she got stood up . However , when in an elevator to leave the building , Olivia is teleported to another location and is directed to an office . After reading a newspaper headline indicating that President Obama was preparing to move into the " new " White House , she is greeted by William Bell ( Leonard Nimoy ) and inquires where she is . The final shot pans out the window revealing that they are standing inside the South Tower of the World Trade Center .

= = Production = =

= = = Casting = = =

The character of Massive Dynamic founder William Bell was originally meant to be revealed earlier in the first season , but the writers changed their minds as the show progressed . In early April 2009 , Entertainment Weekly announced that Star Trek actor Leonard Nimoy had been cast as Bell . He and Fringe co @-@ creator J.J. Abrams already had a relationship after working together on the 2009 film Star Trek ; Abrams stated in an interview that he called Nimoy and begged him to join Fringe , explaining the show and the character . Nimoy sounded interested but wanted to become more familiar with the show , so Abrams and the other producers sent him as much information as they could about Fringe , until Nimoy agreed . This exchange of phone calls , in which Nimoy responded with interest when pitched the idea , was also how Abrams was able to cast him in his Star Trek reboot . Nimoy later explained " When they contacted me about working on ' Fringe ' -- the same people , the same attitude , the same creativity , the same creative team ? it was very enticing " . According to Abrams , " The idea that he will play the mysterious , much @-@ referenced William Bell is a thrill . I know I sound like a goofy fan boy , but I can ? t help it : Leonard is an icon of the genre and such a wonderful actor . To have him come on board Fringe is a mind @-@ blowing honor " .

Nimoy was hired for three episodes , beginning with the season finale . Fringe co @-@ creator Roberto Orci described Nimoy 's character as " a mix of Howard Hughes and Bill Gates " , while Nimoy referred to Bell as a " master of the universe " who is " brilliant , wealthy and very powerful " . Nimoy 's part of the final scene of the episode with Olivia was very brief . Nimoy described the scene as " interesting , entertaining " and " that you 'll want to see more of this relationship and what it 's all about " . Actress Anna Torv described the final scene as calm yet threatening , " That 's what 's kind of cool about working on Fringe , is everything seems kind of calm and lovely , but there 's always something going on underneath " . While shooting , Nimoy commented that the character " was a unique experience , " as he had not acted outside of the Spock character for a number of years . Nimoy has stated in multiple interviews that his Fringe role will be the last project in his acting career .

= = = Writing and filming = = =

The episode 's teleplay was co @-@ written by executive producers Jeff Pinkner and J.H. Wyman , while consulting producer Akiva Goldsman and executive producer Bryan Burk co @-@ wrote the story . Producer Brad Anderson served as episode director , his fourth credit of the season . J.J. Abrams called the finale " the end of one chapter and the start of another " , and believed it was " a huge turning point " for all three main characters .

Co @-@ creator and executive producer Roberto Orci explained in an interview that the big reveal at the end of the episode , in which Olivia meets Bell in the parallel universe , was actually planned

for a fourth season , but the writers decided " let 's actually answer something instead and not get , not just rely on that mystery forever . And so we actually chose to give kind of a big answer and have to come with a different show than we ever intended " . The writers wanted to use an iconic image for the scene , leading to staff writer Andrew Kreisberg 's suggestion of the Twin Towers . Wyman first thought it was " the greatest idea in the world " before having doubts that its use would " sensationalize " it . He explained , " But then , when we started thinking about it , we thought collectively America really understood 9 / 11 is such a monumental moment so we felt it wasn ' t exploited but indicative of the times we ' re living in right now . We used it and that was the end of the first season and then we were all really thrilled with where it was going . " The cast would later recollect on the series , and for Jackson , considered that the show has never " had a better visual or a better cliff @-@ hanger " as this finale .

To create the scene where Jones brings a semi truck from the parallel universe , the special effects crew took a smaller truck and dressed it enough so that it seemed like the longer semi with the help of CGI ; the result was that in the episode , the viewer is led to believe that the truck had been " cut " in half after unsuccessfully entering the prime universe doorway . It was rigged so that it appeared to be on a tilt , and cables linked it to smash into a passing car . As the production crew considered William Bell to be a " Renaissance man " , they filled Bell 's office with " things that inspire him , " such as a prototype of Nina 's mechanical arm and other items that " evoke images and stimulate thought " .

= = Cultural references = =

In the final scene set in the parallel universe , a newspaper states the ( presumably recently inaugurated ) Obamas are moving into the " new " White House , indicating that the traditional presidential residence had been recently rebuilt . Another headline has former President John F. Kennedy addressing the United Nations . Another part of the newspaper depicts Boston Celtics player Len Bias winning the MVP award , when Bias in fact died in 1986 in the prime universe .

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

" There 's More Than One of Everything " was season one 's finale . The episode was watched by an estimated 9 @. @ 28 million viewers in the United States .

In between the first two seasons , Fox aired repeats of the first season featuring Twitter comments about the episodes from executive producers Jeff Pinkner and J.H. Wyman , and actors John Noble and Joshua Jackson .

= = = Reviews = = =

The episode received generally positive reviews , with multiple critics lauding the performances of actors Anna Torv and John Noble . In his review for Entertainment Weekly , critic Ken Tucker wrote this his " mind was blown not once , but twice " due to the many revelations about two universes ; Fringe " has vaulted to the upper reaches of current television " . In a second review , Tucker praised the " beautifully , startlingly executed " special effects when the " hole " in the universe closed . Writing for A.V. Club , critic Zach Handlen gave the episode an A , and felt the episode made him want to go back and rewatch season one because the finale had " so many references and back story nods that I wanted to have everything in my head together " . Andrew Hanson from the Los Angeles Times thought the finale " leads to a wealth of possibilities ... The déjà universe was a bold move . I can ' t wait to see what our friends at Fringe do with it " . Writing for the Chicago Tribune , critic Maureen Ryan heaped praise on the " excellent " episode , and complimented " the quietly creepy atmosphere , the slowly building tension in the dual Walter / Olivia

stories , the way those stories were skillfully woven together , the suitably tense lakeside encounter between Olivia , Peter and Mr. Jones " .

Though some critics appreciated how Fringe chose to end the finale with a shot of the World Trade Center , others disliked it . Jeff Pinkner defended their decision by explaining they chose it because the building is " obviously very iconic " and it best displayed that in the parallel universe , " things are both better and in some ways worse . It 's just different choices , the road not taken " . Leonard Nimoy also defended the writers , commenting that when he received the script , he thought it " was very interesting and really kind of daring contemporary television to pull in that story ... You know , it 's not easy to use that kind of stuff without seeming somehow exploitive . But I thought they did it very , very well " . Many critics expressed that because of the episode , they couldn 't wait for the following season to begin . IGN 's Ramsey Isler rated the episode 9 @. @ 2 / 10 , while website blogger io9 listed " There 's More Than One of Everything " as one of the " crucial " episodes new viewers must watch to get into the show .

The Futon Critic listed it the 16th best television episode of 2009 , explaining " J.J. Abrams and company know all about big reveals ... but this one , in which William Bell reveals himself as living in a parallel universe where the Twin Towers weren 't lost , was one of their most indelible " . In a comparison of " There 's More Than One of Everything " and The X @- @ Files episode " 4 @- @ D " , UGO Networks columnist Alex Zalben wrote that the Fringe episode won " by a landslide . This episode kicked the show into high gear , while ' 4 @- @ D ' was The X @- @ Files winding down . " Jeff Jensen of Entertainment Weekly named " There 's More Than One of Everything " the seventh best episode of the series , calling it " the episode that changed everything ... With that , the most hyped show of the 2008 @- @ 2009 TV season produced a moment that finally earned it buzz . " Den of Geek ranked the episode as the fifth best of the entire series , while IGN ranked it the ninth best .

= = = Awards and nominations = = =

Bryan Burk , Akiva Goldsman , Jeff Pinkner , and J.H. Wyman submitted the episode for consideration in the Outstanding Writing for a Drama Series Category at the 61st Primetime Emmy Awards . They also submitted two other episodes , " Pilot " and " Bound " , but did not receive any nominations .