

The Peale, Baltimore

Out of the Blocks Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the Out of the Blocks website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>



Abby ([00:00](#)):

Abby Henkin. 605 Deepdene Rd, 21210. I am 10 years old and I love to draw and write. I usually write about magic, fantasy, or my life. Well, there's the Diary of Kara Dean. I wrote it in a notebook because I love to write, as I said. It was kind of a mix between fiction and non-fiction. I'm using a pen name, Kara Dean. 4:30 AM, my bed, May 19th, Tuesday. Good morning. I have the perfect plan. [Merana 00:00:38] is in for as long as the other popular girls. "All right, you jerk heads," I whisper. "It's payback. So here's the plan."

Aaron Henkin ([00:46](#)):

In your story, the popular girls are kind of like the villains, the bad girls?

Abby ([00:50](#)):

Yeah, they're Kara's nemesis.

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Aaron Henkin ([00:53](#)):

How does Kara Dean's life compare to your life?

Abby ([00:56](#)):

Everyone has a bully, right? The popular girls are kind of like my beliefs and Kara Dean loves to write and so anyway, so we have that in common.

Aaron Henkin ([01:06](#)):

How do you handle bullies?

Abby ([01:08](#)):

I try not to let them get me down, but I sometimes get irrational with some of them, like when they leave me out. It doesn't feel good.

Aaron Henkin ([01:23](#)):

What do you think moms and dads of kids should say who are being bullied? What do you think their kids need to hear from them?

Abby ([01:30](#)):

Don't let them get you down, stand up for yourself, and trying to be your nicest to them because you never know. Maybe if you're really nice to them, they'll be nice to you back. You could be a role model for them.