BULLYING BACKFIRES

A comic book created by youth for youth in New York City

Made possible by grants from Union Square Arts Award & US Airways Education Foundation

Hosted by Teachers College, Columbia University

Produced in partnership with The After-School Corporation

Project materials distributed by Dark Horse Comics
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Welcome to a special comic book created by youth for youth. Through grants from the Union Square Arts Awards and the US Airways Education Foundation, children in after-school programs across New York City created comic books about bullying—a major problem for our youths. This collection of art and writing represents the hard work, critical thinking, and social development of the many children who participated. View samples from all the comic books at www.ComicBookProject.org.

The Comic Book Project is an arts-based literacy and learning initiative hosted by Teachers College, Columbia University. The Project encourages children to make a connection between what they write and what they draw, and it puts children in the role of creators, rather than merely receivers of information. Children create comic books about their personal experiences, interests, and environments, thereby engaging them in the learning process and motivating them to succeed in school, after school, and in life. For more information about The Comic Book Project, please contact:

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This project was produced in partnership with The After-School Corporation (TASC). TASC was created in 1998 with a generous challenge grant from George Soros’s Open Society Institute to enhance the quality, availability, and sustainability of after-school programs. For more information:

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Materials for The Comic Book Project are printed and distributed by Dark Horse Comics. For more information:

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BY

PEDRO OLIVEIRA (7TH GRADE)
THE RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL
This is Zock.

Ah, I'm stuck. I'm stuck!

Right now, he is late for school.

This is BLT.

Gack or 2 minutes to get here.

Right now, he wants to beat me up in 5.

This is 30.25.

He's not gonna make it in time.

Right now, he is sucking up to BLT.

One...

Two more seconds.
I'm here!

YEAH! Eat THAT, GUY!

What was that for? I was on time.

You disgust me.
During a field trip

"Oh, that BLT! I wish I could eat it!"

"No, that is wrong!"

"Yes! Revenge is sweet!"

"It's good!"

"Revenge... good."
sweet Jesus
a giant rock just fell off the hill

Whoa.
Trippy.

Bathroom!
Zack, where's my money?

I'm about to come out...

Zublorchy!

Next day

Zack's House
At school...

Zack is a deed man.

Au continue.

So come end yet me.

SUPER-DUPER KILLING OTAKE!!
well. This is it.

Now remember, bullying is bad. Stop now.

Or you will end up like this guy.

No... why.
All my life...
Ness was smart and got everything he wanted... While I tried hard and got nothing... NOTHING!

WHY?!
Hit me Baby one more time.

Hey, Ness

I will not back down this time.

hurt
Hey! Skye.

Uh... Hi Skye.

What happened here?

I'm not sure...

What happened?

*giggle giggle*
What the??
why did you do that??

All my life...

I have been bullied.

BOOM
WE'RE GIRLS!!

I guess their plan "backfired"!

Let's go home.

Yeah.

End!
The Lesson

BY
YI WEN HUANG, MINDY ZOU & KELLY SU
(5TH GRADE)
PS 120 / FLUSHING YMCA
Once upon a time, there lived two trees. They lived near a lovely farm called Spring Brook Farm.

One day, a gust of wind blew Maple's leaves away.

Maple was a new tree. She was glad to be there. But Apple was not glad to have Maple there.

Maple was hurt, but she didn't do anything.
The children hurried to the apple tree. They were all around Apple.

Soon the children were picking the apples from Apple. Apple had lost all of his apples and nothing happened to Maple. Maple was very glad.

Days passed, Maple had lost all of its leaves. Apple laughed at her for the whole cold, breezy winter.

See, my leaves are big and strong, not like your leaves, which are small and weak.

In the spring, Maple had a bit of green leaves. Apple kept on bragging about how her leaves were big and plenty.

You are so small that the farmer could knock you down. Ha! Ha!

Inside of Apple she thinks, Maple was kind of prettier than herself.
That’s okay. If the farmer knocks me down, I’ll still remember you as a friend.

Fall Arrived
Apple was very jealous.

A friend? Why should I be Maple’s friend?

I love you, Maple.

The farmer hugged maple. An orange ribbon around her. He wrapped a shiny...
Next Day

Since you guys behaved so well today, you can have free time with these trees.

Yes!

Let's pick a tree that we like.

Wow everyone likes the maple tree. Let's line up and why we like these.

I like this tree because it is small, and I like small trees, "the first person said with love and care."
Maple scowls. Apple staring with an angry face.

After they left, Apple's clothes were torn and her eyes were bloodshot. She cried, "Why didn't you stop me?"

"Don't blame me," said Maple. "I'm just as responsible as you are!"

"But you gave in to his temptation!"

"I know, but what was I supposed to do?"

"You could have stood your ground!"

"But he was so persuasive!"

"Then you should have said yes!"

"What the hell does that mean?"
Apple felt embarrassed to receive a wonderful gift from someone she had made fun of.

Suddenly, Apple realized what a great friend Maple was and how kind Maple had been.

Sorry for giving you so much trouble.

It's okay. I know you would make a great friend.

Can we be FRIENDS?
OF Course we could!!!

mean

nice

So from that day on, Apple stopped being mean to Maple and started being really nice to her.

Soon they became Best Friends!

Maple and Apple were very happy together.

The End!
ANGIE CRABY
Saves Beach Day!!

BY
CONNIE CUI, STEVEN KOH, JOHN LI, SOPHIA LIU, AYDEN SOTO,
LHASANGPO YARNANG, LIAYSI A BEEBE, SHELBY DE LA CRUZ,
MENG ZHENG GAO, ANGELICA JACOBS, JAILENE LEONARDO,
KALAE MOBLEY, CHRISTOPHER MEDAVILLA, AMARI WILDER
(4TH-5TH GRADERS)
PS 134 / HENRY STREET SETTLEMENT (HELPING HORIZON)
Narrator: One day Angie Crabby was hanging out with her friends. It was a beautiful day. Until Rex decided to stop by.

Rex: Hi, Rex! Why are you here, Rex? What do you want?

Angie: I am the King. The day is not so beautiful anymore. Rex is here.

Rex: Stomp! Stomp!

Angie: Hey! Let me go! Leave the beach. Angie Crabby says 'heeeaaaaappppp!!'

Rex: LEAVE!
Rex: Let Max GO!!

NO!

How will I help Max? I am so little; he is strong.

Angie: I will let Max Go if you fight me... Why are you scared?

Rex Fighting is not the answer! Why can't we just talk?

TALK! Are you crazy? I don't TALK!

Do you want to talk, poor Angie Crabby? Let's talk.

Fire... Ha Ha Haaa! ANGIE HELP!

Oh, Noooo!! What will I do? I have no powers. Why is Rex such a bully? I need to think!
Take Max out of the fire, Rex! Leave him alone; he has not done anything to you!

Stop shooting fire at me!

Grarr

Angie, your claws are sparkling!!

I can make the water rise.

What's happening to me? Why do I have these sparkles around my claws? I have magic powers!
Now I can stop you, Rex. With my magic I will send you back to your home.

Finally, I'm free!

Here, take Max; he is useless to me.

L.E.S. Beach is my home; you all belong to ME!!

Now I will make all be on fire.
Goodbye, Sun;
Goodbye, Sky;
Goodbye, Angie Crabby!
He haa ha ha ha!!

Watch out, Angie Crabby

Water rise!!

SWISH!
Yes, the fire is out!

Everything is back to normal!

I Did it!! I Did it!!
Yes, I did it! Everything is back to normal—
the sun and sky!

Now Rex! It's time for you to go home!!

You can never defeat me, Angie Crabby!

Water rise!! Take Rex HOME!!

Water cannot defeat fire.

STOP! My fire is stopping.
Oh—No, I am going home.

Angie Crabby saved the day, yeah!
Thank you, Angie Crabby, for saving our beach and the beautiful day!

Thanks, everyone.
GREAT WORK!!
COMIC BOOK SELECTIONS FROM NEW YORK CITY CHILDREN

Lisa Quinto, John Villanueva, Thet Htat Lwin, Lin Zhang, Phoebe Valenton (4th Grade)
PS 102 / Washington Heights-Inwood Coalition

Armani Rivera (5th Grade)
PS 48 / Washington Heights-Inwood Coalition

Darrel Sharp & Jamie Collazo (5th Grade)
PS 59 / Committee for Hispanic Children & Families

Catherine Vallar (6th Grade)
IS 5 / Sunnyside Community Services

Harry Rosado (5th Grade)
Beginning with Children Charter School / TASC

This is the part when Jason goes in to ask Francis to help him stop bullying.
NAKAYA SCOTLAND, EMANUELLE PHILIDOR, GERTRUDE DOBO (4TH GRADE)  
PS 92 / CAMBA

TIANA HANSEN & MICHELLE GUAN (5TH GRADE)  
PS 51 / ABUNDANT WATERS

AMIE & LORINES (4TH GRADE)  
CS 300 / ASPIRA

JAMAAL FIELDS (4TH GRADE)  
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP CHARTER SCHOOL / TASC

MARCOS REYES & PETER CHEN (5TH GRADE)  
SUNSET PARK RECREATION CENTER / CITY OF NEW YORK PARKS & RECREATION
Briana Black, Javon Guzman, Tisheyla Bryant (5th grade)

Tracee Herbert (4th grade)

Mary Drammeh (4th grade)

Jason Levasseur (7th grade)

Jermaine Finley (6th grade)

Giselle Betances, Estalla Davies, Briana Black, Javon Guzman, Tisheyla Bryant (5th grade)

PS 306 / Committee for Hispanic Children & Families

PS 79 / Good Shepherd Services

MS 534 / CAMBA
And Tj snatched Dj’s food. Then Dj was hungry.

THE WARRIORS:
MAMADOU DIALLO, JOSHUA MINAYA, ANDRE BOATENG, OWEN SMITH, KELVIN URAGA, SEBASTIAN MELENDEZ, ABDOULAYE YOCK, CHRISTIAN DURAN, MAHAMADOU TRAWALLY (4th grade)

DIANELA SANTOS (2nd grade)
PS 64 / NEW SETTLEMENT AFTER SCHOOL

MICHIELE TORO & ROXANE TORO (6th grade)
IS 349 / RIDGEWOOD BUSHWICK SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL

ZACHARY looked back and whispered something about him.

BRANDON ALVAREZ, FRANKLIN PANORA, JESSICA PANORA, MADELINE PIMENTEL, DIAMOND BELL, DENISON JIMENEZ, GERMAN FIGUEROA, JOSE ESTEVEZ, JAREL RODRIGUEZ, BRYAN BRITO, ROLMAN GARCIA, ERIKA HIJIRACOCHA, LENYN TORIBIO, CINDY RODRIGUEZ, NOELY CASTILLO, DELENA SANTOS, DEMY ORTIR, DAVID ESTRADA, JOCELIN ESTRADA (3rd-5th grades)
PS 28 / WASHINGTON HEIGHTS-INWOOD COALITION
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UNION SQUARE ARTS AWARD &
US AIRWAYS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HOSTED BY
TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

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THE AFTER-SCHOOL CORPORATION

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DARK HORSE COMICS

Visit www.ComicBookProject.org to view samples of all the comic books!