



## Don't Laugh at Me

*Steve Seskin , Allen Shamblin , Glin Dibley (illustrator)*

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## Don't Laugh at Me Details

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## **From Reader Review Don't Laugh at Me for online ebook**

### **Ashley Valenzuela says**

This book teaches students about what it feels like to be picked on or made fun of. It would be great to use for promoting an anti-bullying community.

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### **Brittney Finck says**

This book about bullying also comes with a CD with the same title. I was unaware that this book was written and illustrated based on a country song that I really enjoy. The pictures are kid friendly and I believe this story could be a great tool to use when the issue of bullying arises. For those who didn't know this book was a song I agree that it is too brief, however, for a younger set of kids the bullying issue shouldn't have to go much deeper.

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### **Amanda Buss says**

I'm glad that I chose this book from the EMC. I was there getting other books and when I walked past the put back cart...something drew me in. So I didn't read it until today when I needed a break from homework. I am so glad I found this book, I have loved the song for many years. I'm glad to see that the song, has touched me in many different personal ways, has been made into a book. I'm not sure if I would be able to teach with it in a public school. But I believe it is a good message to help stop bullying!!

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### **Jennifer Kelley says**

Great book for an anti-bullying storytime. It has a religious bent which I'd prefer to do without, but since a good many of my daycares are within churches, it works.

My book didn't come with a CD, but I played the song for the kids using Amazon music.

All the teachers really enjoyed the book and wanted to check it out after I read it.

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### **Dawn says**

This book is an excellent discussion starter about bullying. It shows how people in all walks of life have differences but that doesn't mean we should tease. I LOVE this book as I feel bully discussions are vital.

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### **Olivia Rowley says**

This book was okay, but not my favorite. It gives examples of reasons children might be made fun of. It also

explains how it hurts their feelings and that it is not nice to make fun of people. It has a lot of religion mixed in the book. It says that we are all the same in God's eye and should not make fun of others. I could use this in my classroom when discussing bullying and how it is wrong.

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### **Krista the Krazy Kataloguer says**

I didn't know this was a song until I started reading the book. It came with a CD, but I didn't listen to it, so I can't say anything about the music. The lyrics, accompanied by illustrations, were excellent, however. The song features various people--fat, thin, of different skin colors, races, a girl with braces, a kid with glasses, all kinds of people who might be made fun of for being "different," with a plea not to laugh at them for their differences. I really like that! An afterword by singer Peter Yarrow explains how the song came to be written. I must have this one for my library's collection! Highly recommended!

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### **Kiya says**

The plot summary is people being treated differently due to their differences within themselves and feeling bad about themselves, crying themselves to sleep, not wanting to work or talk to anyone. My opinion of this book is it's a very great book! I would rate it a 5! It is very touching but simple. It's simple but it has a lot of meaning behind it. It's appropriate for this age level because it's in simple words and it's not very long and it's not too short, it's just right. Also it's appropriate because it happens a lot in elementary school and some of the students in that class may have experienced it and can relate to it! In the book it says don't laugh at me because everyone is the same in God's eyes, those words could have related to it. It could have given the ones that are being laughed at because of their differences it could have given them self esteem. My opinion of this book is it was very touching to me, because I've experienced it before in my life.

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### **Vittoria says**

I like the book because it was about kids who got bullied and they tried to stand up to themselves and told us how they felt.

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### **Colleen Overlander says**

The text, "Don't Laugh At Me", is an excellent choice, as it's been acknowledged by Reading Rainbow. It tells the story of children who stand out from the rest of the student body and who would be identified as "different" and/or unique, such as the child who has braces when no one else does, or the child who is in a wheelchair, or the child who has no one to play with at recess, or the child who has glasses, etc. It portrays the story of those being bullied as well as those who bully. Through illustrations, that vividly express the emotions that each child is experiencing, and the repetition of the author's words, "Don't Laugh at Me" readers can come to see the effect of how being rude, mean, or excluding someone from an activity negatively affects a person's character, emotions, and sense of being.

I find that this text would be an excellent choice for my text set as it addresses the differences that can exist

among people. I can have my students make a list of what possible differences can exist in the classroom or the school among people and how it would feel if someone teased you, or I could pull out examples from the text to show the students how people felt when they were teased, made fun of, or excluded from an activity. I could then initiate an empathy-directed lesson where I could have the children write down or share with the class incidences where they felt upset, similarly to the characters in this book. Then as a class, the students and I would explore ways of how we could make that person feel better and be happier, what small acts of kindness could make someone feel special. I could also emphasize the importance of embracing people for their differences rather than discriminating them for their differences. I could also teach the children the power of words and how words can really have an impact as well as teach the students how to express their emotions without being physical and using their words in an appropriate manner too. There are several ways that I could introduce this text, and these are a few of them. I would also want to introduce my Kindergarteners to the song that accompanies this text, as they love sing-alongs and would really become engaged in the activity and it would also enable the students to remember the meaning behind the lesson in a fun and creative way.

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### **Denise says**

Lovely artwork and a good lesson on ethical behavior. Comes with music and recording.

This is the third book in the Project Cornerstone series. I like the concept and I think it provides a great opening for a discussion with children on being different or how to treat those who appear different.

My only criticism is the religious element. In the classroom that I am reading, there is a child from a Hindu background and at least two children from Agnostic/Atheist households. In the past the class has also consisted of Muslim, Jehovah's Witness and other non-mainstream Christian parenting. The line "Someday we'll all have perfect wings," for them, is nonsensical. If the goal of the book is to be inclusive and caring to everyone, choosing to put in this Christian slant is unfortunate.

For parents or teachers looking to have a project tie in with the book, I highly recommend looking through Project Cornerstone's suggestions.

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### **Christina Velasquez says**

This book would be a great starting point for a discussion on respect, differences and bullying. It has a large variety of characters who all have a characteristic that others might make fun of or not understand, and they are each asking for respect. I think it would be a great discussion-starter. My one hesitation would be the religious aspect, as there is one line that says "In God's eyes, we are all the same." I don't know if I would read this line, and I don't think it's necessary to have a respectful discussion during or after the reading.

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### **Karen Creech says**

This is a great book to use at the beginning of the year to discuss what respect looks like and what it does not look like. It will be a great addition to my class constitution lesson.

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**Hannah Melberg says**

Don't Laugh at Me was about a variety of different kids that have something different about them. Like having braces or being fat or having a mouthful of braces. They just don't want to be laughed at or be called names. They know that in Gods eyed they are all the same. This book had awesome illustrations that children would love. They were colorful with very modern illustrations. This would be a great book to share to kids about bullying. That everyone is different and that it isn't right to call people names because it hurts people's feelings. This book even came with a song at the end of the book that you could teach your students.

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**Jennifer Borduin says**

This book cannot be used in the classroom. There are references as to how it is okay to be "different" because we're all awesome in Gods eyes, but not everyone believes in a God. Besides the religion reference, the book was horrifyingly depressing.

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