

From the one act play:

Standing By

By Tracy Wells

LEAH, a teenage girl who has learned the tragic consequences of bullying

LEAH

We're all here tonight in honor of Carrie, a kind, sweet girl who didn't know how to stand up for herself in the face of a bully. The other night we unfortunately learned the terrible lengths that bullying will go to and the extent to which it can hurt someone—both emotionally and physically. But we learned something else too—when a bully is allowed to torment others, then we all play a part. Some of us are victims.

Some of us are mentors.

Some of us spread rumors.

Some of us are instigators.

And some of us believe the lies.

And some of us help to make the truth known.

But many of us are bystanders.

We see someone getting bullied and we do nothing, maybe because we are afraid the bully will turn on us, or maybe because we simply don't know what to do. We may be teenagers but we all know right from wrong. We don't need to all be best friends, but we can treat each other with respect. We can do that much for Carrie. I know I can.

There will be no more by-standing for me—from now on I will be standing by...standing by my friends and standing by what is right.

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