

“We have been watching very carefully all week, and here are the things we saw.” (*Samantha interrupts herself*)

This is where I listed all the things Josh recorded in his sketchbook.

Liz: You don’t need to read that part.

Samantha: Okay. (*she continues reading letter*)

“We would like this to stop, and we need your help. We thought that maybe if everyone in our class would stick together, we could change things. We would like to have a class meeting to talk about how to stop the bullying.

“No offense, Mrs. Williams, but even when you punish these guys, things keep getting worse. That’s why us kids need to sort of take things into our own hands. We have some ideas about what we can do, and we think that maybe other kids in class might have some ideas, too.

“Could we please have a class meeting as soon as possible? Thanks a lot, Mrs. Williams.”

And all three of us will sign it.

Josh: Good letter, Sam. Do you think she’ll go for it?

Samantha: Definitely. Mrs. Williams is the best.

Liz: Okay, so now what? Even if we have a class meeting, how is that going to stop the bullying?

Samantha: Well, I think that when Kenny figures out that everyone knows what he’s doing, it’ll slow him down.

Josh: It’ll stop Ryan, anyway, if he thinks that he’ll get in trouble.

Liz: Well, yeah, Ryan might stop. But I don’t know about Kenny. There doesn’t seem to be anything that bothers him.

Samantha: Oh, yes there is. I saw his father pick Kenny up after soccer practice yesterday.

Liz: So?

Samantha: His father was really mad at Kenny because he didn’t make a goal. He screamed at him. It was kinda’ embarrassing.

Liz: It sounds like you’re feeling sorry for Kenny!

Samantha: I am, sort of. I mean, it was only practice. And Kenny is a good soccer player. You’ve got to give him that. He just missed

a really hard shot. I wouldn't want my father yelling at me like that, especially not with so many people around.

Liz: Huh! I don't feel sorry for Kenny, even if his father is a creep!

Josh: I think I do.

Liz: Josh! After the way Kenny acts toward you?

Josh: Well, yeah. I'm still mad about what he did, and I don't like the way he treats people, but it does make me feel kinda bad for him.

Liz: Well, I don't think I'll *ever* feel sorry for Kenny Walker!

Samantha: You don't need to feel sorry for him, Liz. I'm just telling you what I saw.

Josh: It sounds like Kenny's dad was the bully last night. It doesn't make it okay that Kenny bullies other kids, but it *is* kind of interesting.

Liz: Interesting? I don't think I'll ever understand you guys.

Samantha: Well, even if you don't understand us, are you going to stick with us, Liz? Are you going to sign the letter to Mrs. Williams?

Liz: I'll sign. You need me if you're going to convince the rest of the class to go along with your campaign.

Samantha: Campaign! That's it!

Josh: What'd I miss?

Samantha: We'll have a "No Bullying Allowed!" campaign!

Liz: "No Bullying Allowed"?

Samantha: Yeah! We could have posters and buttons . . .

Josh: With, like, a slogan?

Liz: We could get everyone to sign a pact!

Samantha: Yes! Like a contract. If everyone agrees, it just might work.

Josh: What about Ryan and Kenny?

Samantha: Well, a "No Bullying" campaign would be sort of like *everyone* standing up to them, like we did in the classroom this morning. I'm not sure what those two will do, but it's worth a try.