

CONTENTS

- 1 **INTRODUCTION**
- 5 **Why Are Girls So Mean? • Anonymous**
The writer and her clique of female friends engage in mean gossip about other girls—but she feels guilty about it and together they agree to stop
- 12 **I Showed My Enemies—And Hurt My Friends, Too • Elie Elius**
After Elie fights his tormentors they stop picking on him, but he loses friends because he acts hard with everyone
- 20 **Username: Hater • Kiara Ventura**
Kiara and her friends learn how to triumph over cyber-bullying and learn the value of getting help from adults
- 27 **The Walking Flame • Eric Green**
Eric still struggles to get along with people after being bullied in his youth
- 33 **Fortress of Solitude • Anonymous**
Teasing at school drives the author away from her family at home
- 42 **Feeling Different • Isiah Van Brackle**
Isiah feels distant from other kids and gets bullied incessantly, so he protects himself by numbing his emotions
- 49 **“Smut Page” Survivor • Destiny Smith**
Destiny understands the dangers of the Internet after her friend becomes the target of a “smut page”

- 57 **Learning to Love My Hair • Charlene George**
When Charlene is teased for having short hair, she learns ways to cope
- 64 **Gay on the Block • Jeremiah Spears**
Harassed for being gay, Jeremiah finds ways to maintain his self-worth
- 72 **A Place to Belong • Lavell Pride**
Lavell finds a supportive place that gives her the strength and courage to be herself
- 81 **Standing My Ground • Xavier Reyes**
Xavier won't give in to the peer pressure at his group home
- 86 **The Facebook Fight That Fractured My Face • Catherine Cosmo**
A virtual feud becomes a little too real for Catherine when she's attacked at a party
- 92 **Always the Outcast • Christian Pimentel**
Christian sees his clothes as armor that protects him from mistreatment
- 100 **Caught Between Two Colors • Shaniqua Sockwell**
Shaniqua is teased at school for "acting white" because she gets good grades and has a big vocabulary
- 106 **The Very Lonely Bully • Avad Ratliff**
Avad arrives in foster care at age 6 and expresses his hurt by bullying others

- 115 **“Can I Holla Atcha?” • Allajah Young**
Allajah feels degraded by the constant sexual harassment she experiences while walking down the street
- 121 **Bad Boy Gets a Conscience • Anonymous**
The writer, who feels powerful and respected when he torments and picks on other kids, gradually finds happiness through relating to and connecting with others
- 133 **Standing Up to the Cyberbullies • Malik Frank, Breanna King, Angelica Sanchez, and Linda Sankat**
The authors highlight people around the world who have gotten involved and taken action against cyberbullying
- 143 **Teens Talk About Online Abuse • YCteen Staff**
Teen writers discuss their own experiences and views of abuse and bad behavior online
- 151 **Vicious Cycles • Miguel Ayala**
Miguel interviews a therapist about the causes and effects of bullying
- 157 **How Adults Can Help • Miguel Ayala**
Tips on what adults can do to help stop bullying
- 160 **INDEX**
- 165 **ABOUT YOUTH COMMUNICATION**
- 167 **ABOUT THE EDITOR**