

Bully Bean – Turning a bully into a friend

Authors Thomas Weck and Peter Weck realize the need to address the issue of bullying in a way kids can understand. Now with their 5th book in the *Lima Bear Stories Series,* they offer a valuable approach: Turn a bully into a friend. An important lesson for children and their parents.

In the Kingdom of Beandom, Bully Bean is feared. He makes fun of other beans, plays mean tricks and puts others in danger. Lima Bear is Bully Bean's favorite bean to pick on, perhaps because Lima Bear is the only one with green fur and is always helping others. But what happens when Bully Bean is in danger? Lima Bear shows that turning a bully into a friend can make all the difference. And then Bully Bean surprises them all by his reaction.

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A strong element of each book is the Extend the Learning and Activities pages which suggest a myriad of ways parents, grandparents, teachers and others who are sharing the book with a child can enhance the fun and the learning experience the book provides. Most of the reviews of the first four titles in the series mention this added element and feel it adds greatly to the appeal of the books.

"Bullying is so damaging. Lots of times when kids are bullied they don't know what to say to make it stop. They know it feels bad, they wish it would stop but lack the words to use. This wonderful book will give the teacher or parent the chance to help them practice speaking up, both for themselves and for others." —Dr. Amy Stark, clinical psychologist and author of The Jimmy & Rita Go to Work Series

"This story will help even the youngest Lima Bear lovers learn that all boys and girls can be heroes by being good and helpful instead of being mean and hurtful. This book's vital message is an early step to alleviate the nightmarish childhood problem of bullying."

-Philip Dale Smith, parenting/childhood specialist, and national award-winning author of Over is not Up!, Nighttime at the Zoo and 1, 2, 3 Special Like Me

Authors:

Thomas Weck is a creative and captivating national award-winning author of children's books. He has traveled extensively in the U.S. and foreign countries teaching children through the Peace Corps. With four children of his own and a passion for observing children's behavior, he has distilled these observations into stories that excite the imagination of young minds amidst peals of laughter and learning.

Peter Weck grew up enjoying the wonderful stories his father told him about Lima Bear and his friends. Now that he is a father of three young girls, he has teamed up with his father to capture these and other stories in print. Peter's goal is to help children foster a love for creating, reading and listening to stories. He currently serves on the board of the Menlo Park Library Foundation and is CEO of Story Jumper, a web-based company that enables anyone to create and illustrate children's stories.

Illustrator:

Len DiSalvo is an illustrator and animator for a wide range of print projects and award-winning computer games. He currently teaches art illustration and animation at the Art Center Design College in Tucson, Arizona.





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