

AN INTERVIEW WITH MY BULLY

Written by
Maurice Vaughan

FADE IN:

ON NOTEBOOK

A teenage girl's hand writes at the top of a new page: "An Interview with Robyn Davis." She scratches out "Robyn Davis" and writes "my Bully."

A school bell rings.

EXT. STREET - DAY

MOLLY THOMPLSON (15) walks, gripping a notebook tightly because she's scared. She's a tiny, harmless, smart journalist-in-training.

The notebook is open to the page titled, "An Interview with my Bully." She holds a bookbag. She wears a bookbag, too.

She timidly eyes someone offscreen. ROBYN DAVIS (15) walks beside her, chomping on candy. She's a big, cruel overeater. She holds more candy.

Robyn snatches the notebook from her. Molly watches nervously as Robyn reads it silently. She grins.

ROBYN

(mocking; mouth full)

"An Interview with my Bully."

(angered)

You better not make me look bad with this interview.

MOLLY

I'm sorry, what?

ROBYN

You better not make me look bad with this interview.

MOLLY

I'm sorry, I can't understand you.

Robyn swallows the candy.

ROBYN

What, you deaf, or just dumb?

MOLLY

I-I'm not deaf or dumb. You were eating too much candy.

Robyn blocks her from walking.

ROBYN
You calling me fat?

MOLLY
No, I --

Robyn grabs her. Molly yells. Robyn throws her to the street hard. Molly cries out in pain.

Robyn picks up the bookbag Molly was holding.

ROBYN
See you tonight, cricket. You better have my snacks.

She leaves.

Molly lies there crying. She sees the notebook on the street.

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

Molly sits on her bed, frowning angrily. She video chats on her phone with her DAD (40).

DAD
Sorry you have to deal with a bully, sweetie.

MOLLY
I wish...
(angrier)
I wish she'd get a taste of her own medicine!

DAD
Don't say that, Molly. Don't let her cruelty change you into something you'll hate.

Molly's anger becomes sadness.

MOLLY
You're right.

DAD
I got to go. We have to get up early for exercise. The sergeant is going to be hard on us, I know it.

MOLLY
He sounds like a bully.

Her dad laughs.

DAD
No. He's tough, but I just smile and
do what's told. We're actually
friends.

MOLLY
(surprised)
Friends?

DAD
Yes. I love you. Bye.

MOLLY
Love you, too, dad. Bye.

She hangs up.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
I'm glad you don't have a bully.

She looks at the notebook on the bed.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
This is a terrible idea.

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Molly leads Robyn in. Molly frowns bitterly. Robyn munches
on a box of snacks.

ROBYN
This all the snacks you got, cricket?

MOLLY
(under breath)
Do you ever get enough?

She grabs the notebook and a pencil off the bed. She sits.
Robyn grabs her shirt and stands her up.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
(scared)
What did I do?!

ROBYN
I'm sitting here. You sit on the
floor.

She pushes Molly. Robyn plops on the bed and eats. Molly
sits on the floor. She opens the notebook.

ROBYN (CONT'D)
What's the first question?
(MORE)

ROBYN (CONT'D)
I don't wanna spend all night at your
stupid house.

MOLLY
(reading notebook)
First question: "What are your plans
after high school?"

ROBYN
Leave the country.

MOLLY
(surprised)
Leave the country? Why?

ROBYN
Stick to the questions on the paper.

MOLLY
(reading notebook)
Double question: "How important is
college to you? How important is it
to your parents that you go to
college?"

ROBYN
(irritated)
Skip those. And don't ask me anything
about my parents.

MOLLY
But all of the questions have to be
answered --

Robyn drops the candy and jumps up. Molly crawls backwards,
terrified.

Robyn grabs her. Molly yells. Robyn stands her up, then
shoves her back. Molly crashes to the floor. She cries out
in pain.

ROBYN
Finish the work alone, cricket! You
better get me a good grade, and you
better have my snacks tomorrow!

She picks up the candy. Molly lies there, sobbing. Robyn
walks to the door.

MOLLY
(infuriated)
I'm tired of you, you elephant!

Robyn quickly turns around, surprised. Molly gets up.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
I'm tired of you bullying me! What did I do to you?!

ROBYN
Who says there has to be a reason?

MOLLY
You probably do it to feel better about yourself!

ROBYN
I feel great about myself!

MOLLY
You don't look great! You eat and eat and eat! You're killing your body!

ROBYN
Shut up! I can't help it!

MOLLY
(mocking)
Poor Robyn can't help eating.

Robyn yells and charges at her. Molly stands her ground. Robyn rams her, and they hit the floor.

They roll, and Molly ends up on top. She punches Robyn hard. Robyn defends herself, but hits get through.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
Why do you bully me?! Why?!

ROBYN
Get off me!

MOLLY
Tell me! Tell me! Tell me why!

ROBYN
Cause of my dad!!!

Molly stops punching. Robyn shields herself, shivering.

MOLLY
(stunned)
What?

Robyn doesn't reply. Molly draws back to punch.

ROBYN
(crying)
My dad! My dad!
(MORE)

ROBYN (CONT'D)
 He beats me and bullies me, so I
 bully you and everyone else!

Molly stares speechless.

ROBYN (CONT'D)
 He doesn't buy any food for my mom
 and me, so I eat whatever I can take!
 You'd eat like crazy too if you
 didn't know where your next meal was
 coming from!... I just wanna take my
 mom and get away from him!

She sobs loudly. Molly stares, shocked.

Molly looks at her own fists. She gets off her and plops on
 the floor.

MOLLY
 (grieved)
 Robyn, I didn't know --

ROBYN
 Like you would care!

Molly stays quiet. Robyn quickly gets up.

ROBYN (CONT'D)
 I'm out of here! And you better not
 tell anyone what I said, cricket!

MOLLY
 (furious)
 Stop calling me that! And I am gonna
 tell, you heifer! I'm gonna tell the
 entire school! And I'm going to write
 about it in the school newspaper! And
 in every newspaper I end up working
 for! Then you'll know what it's like
 to be embarrassed in front of
 everyone!

Robyn cries. She runs out.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
 You run fast for a fat girl!

She sees the notebook on the floor.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
 (to herself; grinning)
 I'm going to ruin her.

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT (LATER)

Molly does homework on the bed. Her phone lies by her. It rings. She answers the video chat. It's her dad.

MOLLY
(excited)
Hi dad! Did you get my text?!

DAD
(mad)
I got it.

MOLLY
You should've seen it, dad! I was
punching her, and she was crying, and
she ran out --

DAD
You feel good about yourself, huh?

MOLLY
Yup! I beat her up, and I loved it!

DAD
Molly.

MOLLY
What?

Her dad sighs.

DAD
(angered)
I raised you better than that, Molly.

MOLLY
I know, but --

DAD
I warned you about becoming like her.

MOLLY
I'm not like her. I just gave her
what she's been giving me and
everyone for years.

DAD
Congratulations. Mission
accomplished.

MOLLY
Dad, I --

DAD
You bullied her. Plain and simple.

Molly stays quiet.

DAD (CONT'D)
That girl is a person, and it sounds
like she's been through a lot more
than you ever have.

Molly stares in shock. Her dad watches silently.

MOLLY
(near crying)
Dad, what did I do?

She cries.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
How could I become her?

DAD
(grieved)
It's easy. I see it all the time.

MOLLY
What am I gonna do?

DAD
Make things right.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Robyn walks on the side of the street, grieved. She wears
her bookbag.

Molly walks along the same side a few yards back. She wears
her bookbag.

She carries snacks and fruit in a plastic grocery bag. She
holds the notebook.

MOLLY
Robyn.

Robyn doesn't turn around or reply.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
Robyn, can I talk to you a sec?

Robyn doesn't turn around or reply. Molly runs to her.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
Stop. Please.

Robyn keeps walking, not looking at her.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
I'm sorry.

Robyn speeds up. Molly catches up.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
I won't tell anyone at school what
you told me.

Robyn stops walking.

ROBYN
(angered)
Let me see the notebook.

Molly hands her the notebook. Robyn reads it silently.

MOLLY
I'm sorry for what I said. No one
deserves to be bullied.

Robyn looks up from the notebook. She stares at Molly. Molly
holds out the grocery bag.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
Friends?

ROBYN
Are you gonna tell anyone about my
mom and dad?

MOLLY
No, not a word.

Robyn stares at her. Robyn hands her the notebook, then
takes the bag. She takes a snack out and hands it to Molly.

ROBYN
What's the next question for my
interview?

They walk side-by-side.

MOLLY (V.O.)
We can't control how people act
towards us, but we don't have to
treat them the same bad way they
treat us.

FADE OUT.