

## New Characters for ALL OF THE ABOVE

Excerpts of chapters created by All Saints School, 7<sup>th</sup> grade (2011)

### LEA

My name is Lea and I am the new girl at Washington Middle School. It's the first day of school. Let me tell you about myself. My mom died when I was little. She died in a blue car along with two of her close friends. My dad said one of her friends had a little girl my age. He said we would probably be great friends, but he doesn't know any of the people that were in the accident or their relatives. I live with my father in a small apartment with few windows.

The lady who lives next to us works at the salon, Style R' Us. Her niece goes to Washington Middle School. That's how my dad found out about it. They did some project that had them make a record for something called a tetrahedron.

My school had closed just after summer vacation started, so he thought it would be fun to go there. When I got to class everyone was talking. "How was your summer?" I heard people saying or "I'm so glad to see you again."

### DENNIS

Hey, I'm Dennis, I'm a 29-year-old guy who loves to work out and cares a lot about physical fitness. I always go for long runs and work out often. I'm in great shape for 29 and I've loved life this past couple of weeks except, for Asia's new problem.

I can't stop thinking of how wrong Asia is being about this Sharice adoption. I've been dating Asia for two and a half months and she's never mentioned anything about kids except for her niece Rhondell. We always would spend quality time together, just her and me, but now she has Sharice interrupting everything. It's started to get on my nerves because she'd already broken three dates with me just to do things with Sharice.

## KYLIE

Why am I here? One word. Mother. She was talking to our neighbor Thea when she heard about the math club because her goody two shoes daughter is in it. Uh, but I don't get why I have to be. So that's why I'm here.

"Hey, why don't you help!" Marcel shouts at me from across the room. He thinks he's all that because his daddy owns the local barbecue. Uh, the last time I was there I got food poisoning and so I never looked back.

"Why don't you work harder?" I yell back. He gives me a glare, then throws a tetrahedron my way. I dodge; he misses, like usual. Poor, hopeless Marcel. Playing little childish games.

"I'll bring the food!" he suddenly says. I look around as if I had missed something. Sharice was sittin' all proud and such. Yep, I missed something.

Later that day, I'm sitting in the library. It's after hours at the school, but my mom's the librarian, so why does it matter? All of a sudden, I see Sharice leave. What is she doing here so late? Her silence has been keeping secrets. Deep, dark secrets.

## MATTHEW

If you are ever in the neighborhood, make sure to visit Washington Middle. Go in the doors, take a left and head up the stairs, walk past the office, and walk down a depressing looking hallway, at the end of the hall, next to the exit sign that does not work, will be classroom 7a- my homeroom. If you swing by around 2:10 you will see that in the back row, dead in the center is me. Don't worry, you can't miss me. I stand out a lot because I am the only white kid in my class. I sit back there probably looking half-dead because I sleep a lot. You know I am all right when sit up and open one of my blue eyes.

My story begins when I was in math class one day and Mr. Collins, my math teacher, was running late again. Whenever Mr. Collins was running late, we would bet on what tie he would wear.

"Dang man," I say as James wins the bet again, "how do you guess like that?"