

"Three cheers for Amazing Annabelle! Young readers will delight in getting to know this lovely, bright young lady. Annabelle has a strong self-esteem and her positivity is contagious. Linda Taylor has done a wonderful job of creating a character for young readers to look up to and aspire to be like.

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"The books so well present real situations in which students find themselves in terms of inter-relationships with one another. They acknowledge their feelings and work through them.

"The books are an easy read with strong vocabulary and wonderful family nuances. I love the wholesomeness of the books."

-Mary Rettaliatta, Asst. Superintendent

# Amazing Annabelle THANK YOU, VETERANS!

# LINDA TAYLOR ILLUSTRATED BY KYLE HORNE





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To my countless
students—
Oh, how you've
inspired me!

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## Thank You, Veterans

What's new in Social Studies? A new unit for Veterans Day. Trips, projects, recognition, fun, and celebrations are underway.

Drama Club is starting up Interesting activities and exercises take place.

Ideas and decisions are brewing. Annabelle always speaks up and defends her case.

# 1

## DRAMA CLUB

November was always a great time of the year for Annabelle Copeland. It was a time of giving extra thanks. Annabelle and her mom would often volunteer at a senior home and help the people who lived there to play Bingo and various board games.

Once Annabelle spent one whole Saturday making special happy face cards to pass out to all the seniors. She decorated them with markers, tissue paper, and stickers. She also wrote a special message inside of every card. No one told her to do this, she just wanted to spread joy and see the smiles on everyone's faces.

Annabelle had so many leftover cards that she started passing out the rest to all the nurses and other workers. That's just the kind of amazing person Annabelle is. Sharing and doing for others is a top priority for her.

Mrs. Mitchell, her teacher, was planning two big units in Social Studies this month. The class was going to do one on the Native Americans and Pilgrims, and another one on the veterans of this country. Annabelle loved all subjects across the board, but these monthly units were very special and exciting.

Mrs. Mitchell said that there would be a lot of role-playing involved this time. What Mrs. Mitchell didn't know was that Annabelle was a natural born actress extraordinaire, at least in her own imagination. Annabelle and her friend Kaitlyn

#### Drama Club

would often put together make-believe scenes which they would act out at her house, so role-playing was right up Annabelle's alley.

Not only would Annabelle be able to do role-playing in class, but she also could role-play in Drama Club, which would be starting in a week. She and Kaitlyn just saw a big sign hanging up near the cafeteria about it.

"Oh my goodness! I can't believe this! My time has really arrived! I'll finally be able to act on the stage right here at Melville School!" Annabelle said with excitement.

"You and me both! We'll be a complete hit!" Kaitlyn matched her enthusiasm.

There was a sign-up sheet next to the poster, and they both signed it immediately.

"They must have just put this sign up since we are the first and second names on the list," Annabelle said.

"I wonder who's going to teach the drama class," Kaitlyn said.

"I don't know, but I hope they're really good and can recognize pure talent when they see it," Annabelle replied.



#### Drama Club

"You got that right, sister! I'll have to remember to bring my sunglasses on the first day of the club," Kaitlyn said and they both laughed.

Just then Victoria came walking by and noticed Annabelle and Kaitlyn pretending to be actresses near the poster. Victoria was in their class and didn't care too much for either of them.

Annabelle thought Victoria liked to brag and was prideful at times, but Annabelle still tried to be friendly towards her anyway.

"I see you two have signed up for the Drama Club," Victoria said to them. "I was going to sign up earlier, but I had to go and get a pencil. I didn't realize you were into stuff like that. Oh well, I guess anyone can get into a club these days. I'll see you two at the first meeting then. Tootles!"

Victoria didn't even give them a chance to answer back before she walked away, not that they would anyway.

"That's it. I'm taking my name off the list!" Kaitlyn groaned, fumbling for her pencil.

"You will do no such thing!" Annabelle snapped. "You can't let Victoria get to you like that. We're joining together so just forget about her."

"How can I forget about her when she's going to be at all the club meetings with us?" Kaitlyn asked.

"We'll just have to tune her out and pay her no mind. Besides, we're going to be having such a good time, we'll barely notice her." Annabelle tried to encourage her friend.

"Okay. But if she starts to get on my nerves, I'm just going to leave," Kaitlyn warned.

#### Drama Club

"Either we'll both fight the good fight together or we'll both leave," Annabelle said firmly.

"And what exactly does 'tootles' mean anyway?" Kaitlyn wondered.

"It's a fancy way to say goodbye, I think."

"Then why doesn't she just say bye?" Kaitlyn asked.

"We both know Victoria is way too fancy for that." The girls laughed.

"Maybe we should just call her Queen Victoria and bow to her highness whenever we see her," Kaitlyn joked, changing her voice to sound like an English lady.

"Knowing her, she'd probably like us to do that." Annabelle replied. "But I would never give her that satisfaction, and neither should you—not even joking around."

### Thank You, Veterans!

"I guess you're right about that," Kaitlyn agreed.

"Hey, why don't you come over to my house after school, and we can brush up on our acting techniques," Annabelle suggested.

"Sure thing! I think I have some great new props we could use to stage a scene!"

Annabelle and Kaitlyn hurried outside to catch their bus.