



## MY BULLYING STORY, BY ROBERT

His name was Michael Johnson and he was my best friend at school. He wore all black all the time, but that didn't bother me because I wore it too. Michael was a senior. He made things bearable for me during the hurtful bully times of my freshman year. He stood up for me. He always stood so strong, when they called him horrible things like "loser". He just put up his head and walked away with me.

However, when they called me horrible things like "four-glasses" or "dogf'er" he lost it. He called them all losers and told me to ignore them. He told them to leave me alone... they all laughed. Every single day these kids went on and on. To them, we were weird. It hurt a lot... I know that deep down, when they called Michael names, that it hurt him too. He just never let anyone see it. But he couldn't stand when they said those things to me.

At lunchtime we always had time to breathe... we would walk places together with our other friend Katie, also a victim of bullying. At that point in school, I could laugh and smile and actually mean it. But then, 40 minutes later, I was back in the classroom. No classroom for me was "safe". There was always somebody barking at me, or whispering the word, "dogf'er". I cried on Michael's shoulder so many times that I felt ridiculous.

When they started to really target Katie, Michael finally blew. Between what they were saying to me and Katie, and him he lost it. He talked to all of them during class about it, called them all the names they called us and asked them how they liked it. Katie and I just stood there open-mouthed.

I didn't want to go to the office but Katie said that enough was enough. We both walked in and went to Mr Evans. I tried to keep the tears in my eyes but a few slipped out. We told Mr Evans everything. When we walked out of the office, Katie was sure those bullies would get suspended...

(Adapted from: [www.teenink.com](http://www.teenink.com))



**A. Say whether these statements are right (R) or wrong (W). Justify your answers by quoting from the text.**

1. Michael Johnson was the same age as Robert.

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2. Robert defended Michael from the bullies.

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3. Michael and Robert were bullied every day.

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4. Michael Johnson didn't want the bullies to see how he really felt.

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5. Robert and Katie were called to the office to be suspended.

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**B. Answer these questions about the text.**

1. What did Michael Johnson look like?

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2. How did Michael react when bullies called him names?

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3. When could Robert and Katie feel safe from bullies?

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4. Why did Michael decide to confront the bullies one day?

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5. Why did Katie go to Mr Evans office?

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C. Find the words in the text that mean the following:

1. tolerable (paragraph 1)
2. strange (paragraph 2)
3. the sound made by a dog (paragraph 3)
4. surprised (paragraph 4)
5. escaped (paragraph 5)
