



El Deafo

By Cece Bell

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El Deafo By Cece Bell

Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful—and very awkward—hearing aid. The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear—sometimes things she shouldn’t—but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become “El Deafo, Listener for All.” And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she’s longed for.

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El Deafo By Cece Bell Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 2–6—Cece loses her hearing from spinal meningitis, and takes readers through the arduous journey of learning to lip read and decipher the noise of her hearing aid, with the goal of finding a true friend. This warmly and humorously illustrated full-color graphic novel set in the suburban '70s has all the gripping characters and inflated melodrama of late childhood: a crush on a neighborhood boy, the bossy friend, the too-sensitive-to-her-Deafness friend, and the perfect friend, scared away. The characters are all rabbits. The antics of her hearing aid connected to a FM unit (an amplifier the teacher wears) are spectacularly funny. When Cece's teacher leaves the FM unit on, Cece hears everything: bathroom visits, even teacher lounge improprieties. It is her superpower. She deems herself El Deafo! inspired in part by a bullied Deaf child featured in an Afterschool Special. Cece fearlessly fantasizes retaliations. Nevertheless, she rejects ASL because it makes visible what she is trying to hide. She ventures, "Who cares what everyone thinks!" But she does care. She loathes the designation "special," and wants to pass for hearing. Bell tells it all: the joy of removing her hearing aid in summer, the troubles watching the TV when the actor turns his back, and the agony of slumber party chats in the dark. Included is an honest and revealing afterword, which addresses the author's early decision not to learn ASL, her more mature appreciation for the language, and her adage that, "Our differences are our superpowers."—Sara Lissa Paulson, *The American Sign Language and English Lower School*, New York City

Review

'A serious subject treated with warmth and humour.' Little London magazine "Full of warmth, humor, and superpowered strength, *El Deafo* is an absolute treat." Raina Telgemeier, author of *Smile* "Read *El Deafo* for the giggles, for the challenges, for the universal life experiences, and for the opportunity to be changed, even just a little. And for those readers who, like Cece, discover ways to turn the things the world calls weakness into the qualities they own as strengths, make sure to have a couple of capes on hand." Matthew C. Winner, *The Busy Librarian* "It's an honest and rather sweet tale of a girl coming to terms with her disability, and as such the kind of story that will strike a chord with any child who has felt ostracised or different. *El Deafo* is heartfelt, eye-opening, funny and beautifully drawn.' The Financial Times "Inspiring and honest, this is a wonderful graphic novel.' Book of the Week in *We Love This Book* and *The Bookseller*

About the Author

Cece Bell has written and illustrated several books for children, including the Geisel Honor book *Rabbit & Robot: The Sleepover*. She lives in Virginia with her husband, author Tom Angleberger.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jenifer Bell:

The book *El Deafo* can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. So why must we leave the best thing like a book *El Deafo*? Several of you have a different opinion about e-book. But one aim this book can give many details for us. It is absolutely proper. Right now, try to closer with the book. Knowledge or information that you take for that, you can give for each other; it is possible to share all of these. Book *El Deafo* has simple shape however you know: it has great and big function for you. You can

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Katie Cardiel:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent all day long to reading a publication. The book El Deafo it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book has high quality.

Edward Lott:

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