

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Shh! It's a Secret!

by Kelly Hashway

"Don't tell anyone," Jennifer said. "It's a secret."

Reagan sighed. Jennifer wanted everything to be a secret. She thought it made her mysterious if people didn't know much about her. Maybe Jennifer was right. She had quickly become the most popular girl in school. But Reagan was getting tired of keeping secrets. Especially from her best



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"Reagan! You can't tell her," Jennifer said. "It's a secret. You can't tell other people's secrets."

"But she should know this. It's about—"

Jennifer narrowed her eyes at Reagan. "If you can't keep a secret, I'll have to find another friend who can."

"It's just that this isn't really a secret," Reagan said.

"Anything can be a secret. It's more fun that way."

"How is keeping secrets fun?" Lena asked.

Jennifer smirked. "It's fun when everyone wants to know what your secret is."

"Well, it's not fun for the people who don't know the secret." Lena got up and walked away.

Reagan stood up. "I'll keep your secret because I'm your friend," she told Jennifer, "but I don't want to know any more secrets. Don't tell me anything I can't tell Lena. She's one of my best friends, and I don't like making her feel left out." Reagan turned and walked off after Lena.

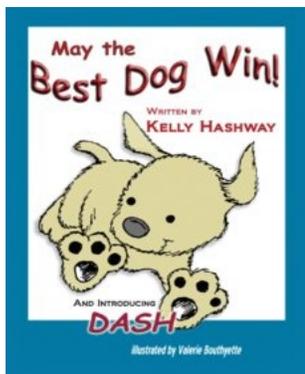
"Wait!" Jennifer said. "You can tell Lena that tryouts



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## About the Author



Kelly Hashway's picture book, *May the Best Dog Win*, is now available!

Dash has the perfect life until the Super Sweeper 5000 shows up. Sweeper runs all over the house sucking up the leftover food scraps, and he even gets his own room! But Dash won't give up his place as the favorite dog without a fight.

Hashway, Kelly. *May the Best Dog Win*. ISBN: 9780984589081

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1. What does Reagan do when she becomes frustrated with Jennifer's secrets?
- a. She tells the secret to her best friend Lena.
  - b. She tells their teacher.
  - c. She tells Jennifer she is not good at keeping secrets.
  - d. She says she doesn't want to know any more secrets.



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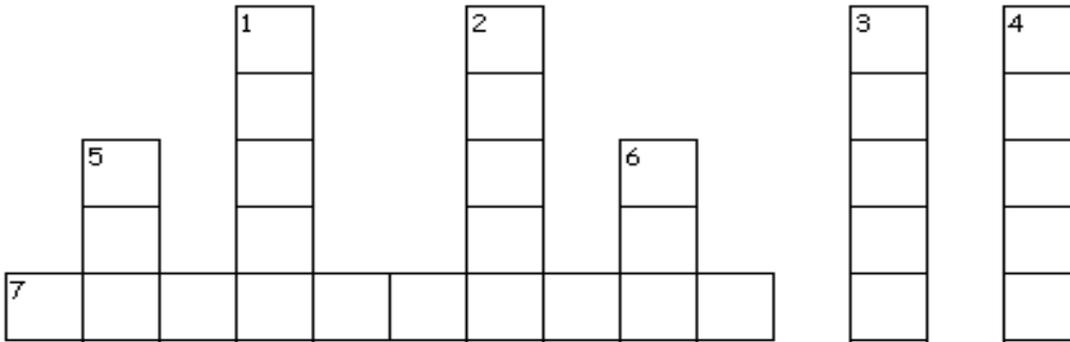
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4. How did Lena probably feel when she walked away from the table?
- a. relieved
  - b. confused
  - c. aggravated
  - d. indifferent

**Challenge:** On a sheet of white paper, draw a comic strip in which Jennifer and Reagan tell Lena the secret. Be sure your pictures are detailed and the words are neatly written.

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Use words from the story, "Shh! It's a Secret!" to complete the crossword.

### Across

7. unknown, secretive
8. smiled in a smug way
9. most important role in a play

### Down

1. large room for eating
2. cloth for wiping hands and fingers when eating
3. liked by others
4. crushed and wrinkled
5. auditions
6. day before Friday

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In the story, "Shh! It's a Secret!" by Kelly Hashway, Reagan helps Jennifer learn an important lesson: that telling too many secrets can make other people feel hurt and left out.

Do you think it's ever okay to tell a secret? Why or why not?

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**Preview**

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A promotional banner for Super Teacher Worksheets. On the left, a cartoon superhero with a red cape and a blue chest with the letters 'MJS' is flying. On the right, the word 'Preview' is written in large red letters. Below it, the text reads 'Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.'

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## ANSWER KEY

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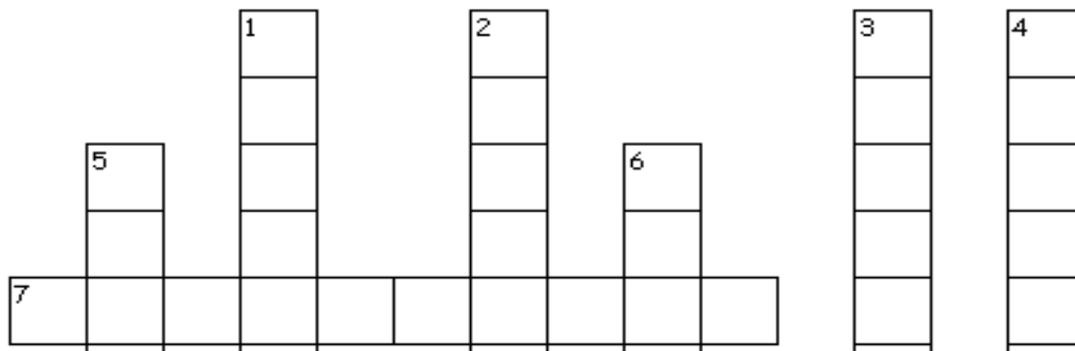
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### Across

- unknown, secretive (**mysterious**)
- smiled in a smug way (**smirked**)
- most important role in a play (**lead**)

### Down

- large room for eating (**cafeteria**)
- cloth for wiping hands and fingers when eating (**napkin**)
- liked by others (**popular**)
- crushed and wrinkled (**crumpled**)
- auditions (**tryouts**)
- day before Friday (**Thursday**)