

Kylie Shearer
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Dear Mrs. Katherine Tarbox,

I love to read so when my librarian pulled out your book, Katie.Com: My Story, I didn't even have to read the back of the book to know what it was about. I just knew I had to read it. I finished it in three hours. I found it very interesting. The book seemed like it was so real I just got so into it that I made myself finish your book. The main character Katie was the main reason why I liked it so much because of the way she acted and motivated herself.

Your book helped me understand the Internet more. It changed my perspective about how I use the Internet now. Everyone tells me how unsafe the Internet is for kids and I sort of believe them. They always say the same thing: never give out personal information and never go and meet the person you chat with. They always show us some creepy looking guy and tell us some boring story behind him. How he is like 50 and he likes to look at gross stuff about us kids on the Internet. Then he arranged to meet some pretty girl and he killed her. The story is always the same. But it never seemed real because it was always some girl in some another state. It never really mattered to me because it didn't really affect me. But after reading your story that changed. I don't know really how, it just did. Your book got me to thinking. It just made it interesting to know that you were a regular kid like me and this happened. Like something in my head clicked and made think that some guy could kill me with one touch of a button on the computer. When I put personal information on there about me, it's like giving it to him.

I now try to protect myself on the Internet and I no longer go into chat rooms. I only chat online with people I know personally and I put protective warnings on my web sites and email. If someone wants to talk to me I have to add them. I make my password really weird so that no one knows what it is. I gave my mom my password and username. All of this protects me from harm. Thank you for writing this story. I hope it changes someone else's life like it did mine.

Sincerely,

Kylie Shearer

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