

Narrator 1: SHEILA RAE, THE BRAVE

by Kevin Henkes

Characters:

Narrator 1	Narrator 5
Narrator 2	Sheila Rae
Narrator 3	Louise
Narrator 4	Friends

Narrator 2: Sheila Rae wasn't afraid of anything. She wasn't afraid of the dark. She wasn't afraid of thunder and lightning. And she wasn't afraid of the big black dog at the end of the block.

Narrator 3: At dinner, Sheila Rae made believe that the cherries in her fruit cocktail were the eyes of dead bears, and she ate five of them.

Narrator 4: At school, Sheila Rae giggled when the principal walked by.

Narrator 5: And when her classmate Wendell stole her jump rope during recess, Sheila Rae tied him up until the bell rang.

Sheila Rae: "I'm very brave,"

Narrator 1: Sheila Rae said, patting herself on the back.

Narrator 2: Sheila Rae stepped on every crack in the sidewalk without fear.

Narrator 3: When her sister, Louise, said there was a monster in the closet, Sheila Rae attacked it.

Narrator 4: And she rode her bicycle no-handed with her eyes closed.

Friends: "Yea! Yea! Sheila Rae!"

Narrator 5: her friends yelled, clapping their hands.

Narrator 1: One day, Sheila Rae decided to walk home from school a new way. Louise was afraid to.

Louise: "You're too brave for me,"

Narrator 2: Louise said.

Sheila Rae: "You're always such a scaredy-cat,"

Narrator 2: Sheila Rae called.

Louise: "Am not,"

Narrator 2: whispered Louise.

Narrator 3: Sheila Rae started off, skipping.

Sheila Rae: "I am brave, I am fearless."

Narrator 3: she sang.

Narrator 4: She stepped on every crack. She walked backwards with her eyes closed.

Narrator 5: She growled at stray dogs, and bared her teeth at stray cats.
And she pretended that the trees were evil creatures.

Narrator 1: She climbed up them and broke their fingers off. Snap, snap, snap.

Narrator 2: Sheila Rae walked and walked. She turned corners. She crossed streets.

Narrator 3: It suddenly occurred to Sheila Rae that nothing looked familiar.

Narrator 4: Sheila Rae heard frightening noises. They sounded worse than thunder.

Narrator 5: She thought horrible thoughts. They were worse than anything she had ever imagined.

Sheila Rae: "I am brave, I am fearless."

Narrator 1: Sheila Rae tried to convince herself.

Narrator 2: The sounds became more frightening. The thoughts became more horrible. Sheila Rae sat down on a rock and cried.

Sheila Rae: "Help,"

Narrator 3: she sniffed. She thought of her mother and her father and Louise. She cried,

Sheila Rae: "Mother! Father! Louise!"

Louise: "Here I am,"

Narrator 4: a voice said.

Sheila Rae: "Louise!"

Narrator 4: Sheila Rae hugged her sister.

Sheila Rae: "We're lost,"

Narrator 5: Sheila Rae said. Louise said,

Louise: "No, we're not, I know the way home. Follow me!"

Narrator 1: Louise stepped on every crack. She walked backwards with her eyes closed.

Narrator 2: She growled at stray dogs, and bared her teeth at stray cats.

Narrator 3: And she pretended that the trees were evil creatures.

Narrator 4: She jumped up and broke their fingers off. Snap, snap, snap.

Narrator 5: Sheila Rae walked quickly behind her.

Narrator 1: They walked and walked. They crossed streets. They turned corners.

Narrator 2: Soon their house could be seen between the trees. Sheila Rae grabbed Louise and dashed up the street.

Narrator 3: When they reached their own yard and the gate was closed behind them, Sheila Rae said,

Sheila Rae: "Louise, you are brave. You are fearless."

Louise: "We both are,"

Narrator 4: said Louise. And they walked backwards into the house with their eyes closed.

Scripted by Jill Jauquet,

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