

# Earl of Twirl

## Scene 3

by Louise Rozett



**1** *The next day, Earl arrives at school with a plan. Cara sees him right away.*

**2** **CARA:** Here he is, everybody! It's the Earl of Twirl! Earl of Twirl!

**3** *(Soon, everyone in the hallway has joined in, chanting Earl's nickname. Earl takes a deep breath, smiles, and spins right into a locker. Then he surprises everyone by grinning and taking a bow. They all applaud him loudly.)*

**4** **EARL:** Thank you, everyone!

**5** **CARA:** *(deflated)* But, but that was—

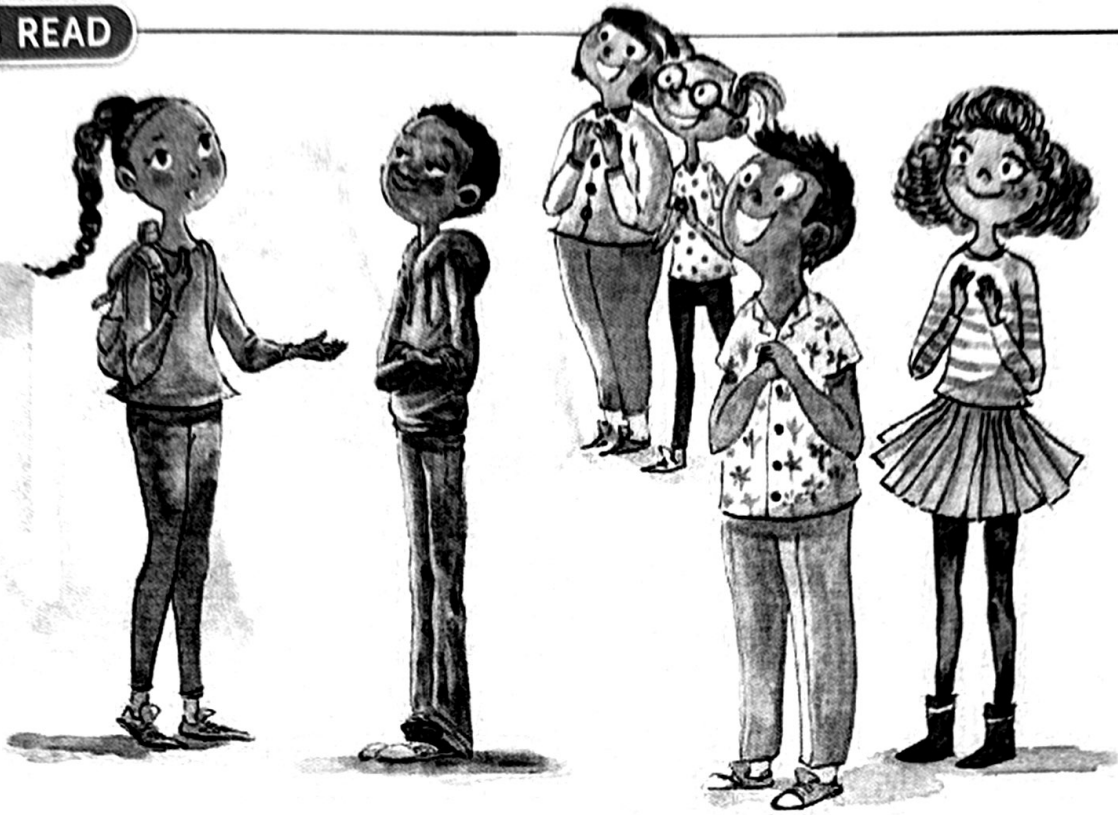
**6** **EARL:** Terrible! Yes, Cara, you're right. Can you show me how it's done—for real?

**7** *(The crowd starts to chant for Cara, who is surprised and delighted. She wonders why Earl is nice to her.)*

**8** **AMY:** Oh my gosh, such a good chant!

**9** **CARA:** Okay, calm down, everybody.





**10** *(Cara goes to Earl and stands next to him.)*

**11** **CARA:** The key to spinning is keeping your eyes on one spot for as long as you can as you turn. Then find that same spot again as your head comes around. It keeps you from getting dizzy, which keeps you from crashing into things like lockers.

**12** *(Cara grins as she demonstrates. The crowd applauds again, then heads off to homeroom when the bell rings. Cara motions Earl aside.)*

**13** **CARA:** I was a jerk, Earl. I think I was just a little jealous, and I'm sorry. Can I make it up to you with another lesson?

**14** **EARL:** Yeah, right. So you can make fun of me again when I mess up?

**15** **CARA:** I promise I won't. Will you give me a chance to prove it to you?

**16** **EARL:** *(thinks it over)* I think I can do that.

**17** *(With a smile, they head off to homeroom. Earl tries a twirl in the hallway, and with Cara's advice, he avoids crashing into a locker.)*

**18** **AMY:** Oh my gosh, such a good ending!



# Respond to Text

## Reread/Think

Reread Scene 3 of "Earl of Twirl." Choose the best response to each question.

1. Why does Earl spin into a locker?

- Ⓐ Earl believes dancing is not important to him.
- Ⓑ Earl thinks his sense of humor might help him.
- Ⓒ Earl has decided to ignore Kevin's advice to him.
- Ⓓ Earl remembers when Cara was nicer to him.

2. Read the sentence from line 3.

They all applaud him loudly.

What does the phrase applaud him tell the reader about how the other students react to Earl's spin?

- Ⓐ They imitate him by twirling around.
- Ⓑ They talk about him behind his back.
- Ⓒ They tease him by saying his nickname.
- Ⓓ They show their enjoyment by clapping.

3. **PART A**

Which phrase **best** describes Cara from line 11 to the end of the play?

- Ⓐ trying to be silly
- Ⓑ eager for attention
- Ⓒ wanting to help
- Ⓓ ready to learn

**PART B**

Which detail from the play **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ Cara offers to teach Earl how to twirl.
- Ⓑ Cara introduces Earl as the "Earl of Twirl."
- Ⓒ Cara loves when the crowd chants for her.
- Ⓓ Cara tells Earl that she was feeling jealous.



### Reread/Think

4. Fill in **one** bubble in each row to show the order in which events happen in “Earl of Twirl,” Scene 3.

	First	Next	Then	Finally
Cara teaches Earl how to spin.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
Earl spins into a locker and takes a bow.	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)
The crowd chants Earl’s nickname.	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)
Cara tells Earl she is sorry.	(M)	(N)	(O)	(P)

### Write

How is the conflict resolved in Scene 3? In your response, give examples of how the setting, characters, and events contribute to the plot.

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#### WRITING CHECKLIST

- I listed the key events that led to the characters solving the conflict.
- I included examples of how the setting and characters contributed to the plot.
- I used complete sentences.
- I used correct spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.