

MARLEY: No, we weren't buying them, we were getting donations from people who saw the campaign on social media. And I think that it's a lot better when they give books because then they know where their money's going. We did get some money donations, which is definitely helpful for us when we travel, and we had to hire people to help log books because there's so many.

GREENE: Were you sort of the boss? Were you kind of giving them instructions on how you wanted this to be done?

MARLEY: Yes, I am, but because I have school I can't spend, like, the day helping opening books all the time, but I try my best because I don't want to just be the boss and be the representative. I want to be a part of every aspect of the work that I created. I just don't want to be, like, the big boss who doesn't do much.

GREENE: I love that. That seems like a very good lesson to learn in life very early on. What's been the most memorable moment so far since you've started doing this?

MARLEY: That's a tough one. Well, of course when we reached 1,000 books, which is so big of a deal, it was really awesome. And then when I went on the "Ellen" show - I've never been on TV or done anything, like, that made me famous or anything in any respect. It's just - all of it really is super important and super special.

GREENE: So the bottom line - you were trying to collect a thousand books and give them away, and you kind of blew right through your goal and have collected a lot more, which is awesome. Do you have a new goal now?

MARLEY: We don't have a new goal, but I do have a bigger idea now that we've reached the goal. It's that we have school boards assigning books where it's very diverse and it's not just one type that they're trying to focus on, it's all different characters, all different races, all different genders. So that's definitely one of the big things that I want to achieve because I know that I'm definitely not the only kid or student out there who's experiencing this problem.

GREENE: Marley, you've probably heard this before - you're a very impressive young woman.

MARLEY: Thank you.

GREENE: Best of luck to you, and thanks for taking the time to talk to us about this.

MARLEY: No problem.

Possible Response Questions:

1. What was new or surprising to you in this article?
2. In what ways is this article a contrast to last week's AoW?
3. What is the point of this article and others like this one? Should the news cover stories like this? Why or why not?
4. What lessons do you think there in this article, if any?
5. What other things did this article make you think about or connect to?
6. Choose any paragraph(s) and write a response.