**Goodbye, Rebel Blue**

By Shelley Coriell

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**Narrator:** We are presenting a scene from Shelley Coriell’s *Goodbye, Rebel Blue*, a contemporary fiction story about an edgy teenage girl named Rebecca “Rebel” Blue and her experience in reaching out to her family, Uncle Bob, Aunt Evelyn, and cousin Pen. Rebel lives with this family after her adventurous photographer mother, Bob’s sister, dies in a tragic car accident. Rebel has trouble fitting in with her conservative Aunt’s way of living, and often clashes with her sporty and popular cousin. Rebel is fulfilling a bucket list of a classmate who died after talking to Rebel in detention. The family is sitting in the kitchen around the table, and Rebel brings in a metal box to fulfill the “build a time capsule” wish from the list. Rebel is read by ______________, Aunt Evelyn is read by ______________, Uncle Bob is read by ______________, Pen is read by ______________, and I am ____________________ your narrator.

**Rebel:** Here’s the box.

**Aunt Evelyn:** (worried) Do you think it will be big enough?

**Uncle Bob:** I’m sure it will be fine. What now, Reb?

**Aunt Evelyn:** (excitedly) This is so exciting!

**Rebel:** (ignoring her aunt) Who has the label?

**Aunt Evelyn:** That’s me! Where do you want it? On the top or front?

**Pen:** Front.

**Aunt Evelyn:** Does this look straight?

**Uncle Bob:** Looks great.

**Aunt Evelyn:** (wrinkling her nose) It looks crooked to me. Maybe it’s the lettering. Pen?

**Pen:** (feeling bored) Perfect.

**Aunt Evelyn:** Rebecca?
Rebel: (taking a deep breath) Just put on the stupid label. Please. Here are some bags. If you have anything where the ink may bleed or that could get fragile with age and fall apart, put it in a plastic bag.

Aunt Evelyn: (smiling) Good idea, Rebecca. Isn’t that a good idea, Bob?

Uncle Bob: Good idea. Now let’s put everything into the box.

Aunt Evelyn: (excitedly) NO! One at a time, so we can hear what’s important to each of us. You go first, Bob.

Uncle Bob: Here is the front page of the newspaper, one of my pay stubs, a grocery store receipt, and a postage stamp. Everyday stuff, but it gives a good snapshot of world affairs and the economy.

Aunt Evelyn: (excitedly) Excellent! Now my turn. I chose photographs. Here is Pen and Rebel at Halloween…Pen playing soccer…Rebel building a sand castle. I also wrote letters to each of you, and also one to our future grandchildren! (with a smile) Also, here is last year’s Christmas letter, a hand-knitted potholder, a rooster salt-and-pepper shaker set and a decorating magazine!

Pen: Here is a friendship bracelet. Because friendships, in any decade, are important.

Rebel: Next.

Aunt Evelyn: Rebecca! Don’t be rude! This is supposed to be a family project…

Uncle Bob: (growing tired) Okay, Pen, let’s get this show on the road.

Pen: I have some pictures and a team roster from the track team. Here is a ticket from that concert, my latest report card, my corsage from the Mistletoe Ball, and a picture and the tag from the dress I just got for prom! Oh, and here’s a Polly Pocket I used to play with.

Rebel: (annoyed) Why are you putting that in?

Pen: (defensive) Because Polly Pockets are an iconic item from my childhood! I used to play with them for hours!

Rebel: Well, there’s no room, Pen.

Uncle Bob: (stepping in) I’m sure we can fit it in if I do a little rearranging…

Aunt Evelyn: (interrupting) Or maybe we should get a bigger box. This one is not a good fit. Rebecca hasn’t put her stuff in yet. By the way, Rebecca, are you sure you only
want to put in sea glass and black jellybeans? Don’t you have something more meaningful?

**Uncle Bob:** Reb’s stuff is fine, and so is the box.

**Aunt Evelyn:** Look! Pen has more stuff to add. This box isn’t going to work.

**Uncle Bob:** (growing angry) This is the box Rebecca chose, and this is HER project. Pen will need to include fewer items. Pen, hon, why don’t you take out a few that may be not as important?

**Aunt Evelyn:** (growing angry) They’re ALL important to her, or she would not have brought them. We can make it all fit.

**Narrator:** There is a lot of tension in Rebel’s family. If she wishes to succeed in this bucket list item, the family will have to work together. Can Rebel actually participate in someone else’s bucket list? If she does, will it ease her mind about her classmate’s death? Drop in on Rebel’s quest to fulfill all the items on the bucket list and see how her life changes. Read Shelley Coriell’s *Goodbye, Rebel Blue* and prepare to be amazed.