

Katie Kazoo, SWITCHEROO

Anyone But Me



by Nancy Krulik • illustrated by John & Wendy



Chapter 1

“I’ve got it! I’ve got it!”

The football soared right towards Katie Carew. She ran towards the ball, reached out her hands and . . . *oomph!* She missed it completely.

“You took your eyes off it again,” Katie’s best friend, Jeremy Fox, said, jogging up to her. He pushed his thin wire glasses higher up on his nose and ran his hands through his curly brown hair.

“I know,” Katie replied simply. What else could she say?

“Katie, I can’t believe you did that!” Kevin Camilleri shouted across the field. “You lost

the whole game for us.”

Just then George Brennan came charging across the field. He had a big smile on his face. Katie groaned. Of course George was happy. His team had just won the game—thanks to Katie’s fumble!

“Don’t yell at the secret weapon,” George told Kevin.

“Secret weapon? Are you kidding?” Kevin asked. “Secret weapons help *win* games, George.”

“Exactly,” George agreed. “Katie’s the secret weapon for *our* team!”

Katie blinked her eyes tight. She didn’t want George to see her cry.

“Forget about George,” Jeremy whispered to Katie. “He can’t help being mean. He was just born that way.”

Katie tried to smile. “Could be,” she said.

The truth was, Katie wasn’t really sure why George was nasty to everyone in class 3A. Most new kids tried to make friends. Not



George. He tried to make enemies.

Just then, Katie's other best friend, Suzanne Lock, ran across the playground to them. "Let's go play on the monkey bars for a while," she suggested, pulling Katie and Jeremy away from George. "I'll bet I can hang upside down longer than either of you."

Katie stared at Suzanne. Her friend was wearing a skirt! "You're going to turn upside down in *that*?" Katie asked.

\$3.99 US
(\$4.50 CAN)

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Katie Carew is fed up.
Everything keeps going wrong.
If only she could be anyone but herself!

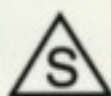
But Katie has to be careful what she
wishes for . . . it just might come true!

ISBN 978-0-448-42653-2

EAN



50399>



Grosset & Dunlap
www.penguin.com/youngreaders

RL: 3.4