

Grade: 3  
Lexile® Measure: 600L - 700L  
Mean Sentence Length: 12.04  
Mean Log Word Frequency: 3.63  
Word Count: 301

### A Grandmother by Any Other Name...

Little Krissy was not your average kindergartener. From a very early age, Little Krissy had had an extensive vocabulary. She spoke so beautifully and well that you'd almost swear she was older...if she hadn't been so short. But even with her child's frame, she seemed like an adult in many ways. When she spoke, she preferred to speak to adults. She dressed smartly and sharply, like an adult going to work. And in this work, she liked to let folks know, "I'm the boss!"

Still, even though she was feisty, Little Krissy was kind. She had an especially soft spot in her heart for her family and her dog, Buddy. She loved nothing more than when her parents would bring Buddy to school to pick her up. It was her favorite moment of the day. She looked forward to his fluffy face during every minute. And that's what made it so hard when she once found out that her grandmother was picking her up instead.

It's not that Little Krissy didn't love her grandmother. She did. It's just that Grandmother could never be as fun as her parents and Buddy were. The day that Grandmother was supposed to pick her up, Little Krissy pouted outside of school in the pickup line. When Grandmother drove up, got out of the car, and began walking toward her, Little Krissy pretended not to notice. Grandmother went up to Little Krissy's teacher to sign her out. Then, Little Krissy's teacher walked over and asked, "Krissy, is this your grandma here to get you?" Little Krissy turned and looked without smiling. "No," she casually replied.

Little Krissy's grandmother scolded her, "Kristen Nicole, you tell your teacher the truth, right now!" Little Krissy looked coolly at her teacher and her grandmother and said, "She's not my *grandma*. She's my *grandmother*."