

THE RECESS QUEEN – Alexis O’Neill and Laura Huliska-Beith

[Song: “Until Mean Jean #1”]

*Lovely playground, it’s a lovely place where the swings are waiting, anticipating laughter in the air.
Lovely playground, it’s a lovely place where the sun is beaming,
the slide is gleaming, reflecting everywhere.*

*Lovely see-saw, there without a fuss you wait for us, your mood serene.
When its recess, we must always wait for JEAN!*

*Nobody swings until Mean Jean swings. Nobody ever has dared to.
Nobody kicks until Mean Jean kicks. Everyone here is too scared to.
Don’t **bounce the ball!** Don’t let her see you!
She’d **bounce us all!** Don’t, if you value your life!*

*Nobody swings until Mean Jean swings. Nobody ever has dared to.
Nobody kicks until Mean Jean kicks. Everyone here is too scared to try.
You wanna know why?
If Kids ever crossed her, **she’d push ‘em and smooch ‘em.**
If kids ever crossed her, **she’d lollapoloosh ‘em.**
If kids ever crossed her, **she’d hammer and slammer ‘em,**
and what’s even worse, **she’d kitz and kajammer ‘em.***

*Nobody swings until Mean Jean swings. Nobody ever has dared to.
Nobody kicks until Mean Jean kicks. Everyone here is too scared to play.
You be careful what you say!*

K1: **It’s time for recess!**
K2: **When can we get to play?**
K3: **You know the rules!**
K4: **But I wanna go play!**
K5: **You’d better watch out!**
K6: **Yeah . . if you enjoy having your head ON your shoulders!**

[Song: “Until Mean Jean #2”]

*Nobody swings until Mean Jean swings. Nobody ever has dared to.
Nobody kicks until Mean Jean kicks. Everyone here is too scared to play.*

K7: **Oh, oh! Here she comes!**
(Jean) “Say, WHAT?” (Kids) *Mean Jean growled.* (Jean) “Say, WHO?” (Kids) *Mean Jean howled.*
(Jean) “Say, YOU!” (Kids) Say, me? Say who? *What did you do? What did you say?*
Mean Jean always gets her way!

Jean: Who do you think you’re talking to? (she storms off)

K8: **Mean Jean ALWAYS got her way.**
K9: **Until one day in Miss Pickle’s class . . .**

K1: A new kid came to school, Katie Sue!
K2: A teeny kid, a tiny kid,
K3: A kid you might scare with a jump and a BOO!
K4: But when the recess bell went ringity-ring
K5: This kid ran a zingity-zing
K6: She headed straight for the playground gate!

[Song: "Until Mean Jean #3"]

*Katie Sue swung before Mean Jean swung!
Katie Sue kicked before Mean Jean kicked!
Katie Sue bounced before Mean Jean bounced!
The kid you might scare with a jump and a boo
Was too new too new
To know about Mean Jean the Recess Queen!*

K7: WHAT ARE YOU DOING!! You have to wait for Jean!

Katie Sue: Why? Its recess and I want to play.

K8: I know you're new, but Jean has to go first!

Katie Sue: Why? Who's this Jean?

[Song: "She's the Queen of Mean"]

*This is what they say about Jean
She's the queen of mean. There's her and there's us and there's nothing in between.
She's the queen of mean like no one else you've ever seen!*

*This is the story I heard . . .
There was this kid on a slide making such a commotion.
She pushed this kid so hard
That he landed in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean
And they never saw him again!
She's the Queen of Mean! She's the Queen of Mean!*

*This is the story I heard . . .
There was this kid with a ball. Bouncing was her biggest failure.
She bounced this kid so hard
That she bounced her all the way to Western Australia.
And they never saw her again!
She's the Queen of Mean! She's the Queen of Mean!*

*This is the story I heard . . .
There was this kid on the swing, but he swung too soon.
She swung this kid so hard
That she swung him into orbit . . . right around the moon.
And they never saw him again!*

*She's the queen of mean. There's her and there's us and there's nothing in between.
She's the queen of mean like no one else you've ever seen!
And that's what they say about Mean Queen Jean.*

(After a brief pause – Katie Sue laughs her head off and skips off – kids are stunned)

K9: Well, Mean Jean bullied through the playground crowd

K10: Like always, she pushed kids and smooshed kids

K11: Like always, she lollapalooshed kids

K12: She hammered and slammered ‘em.

K13: She kitz and kajammered ‘em

K14: She charged after that Katie Sue

[Song: “Until Mean Jean” #4]

(Jean) “Say, WHAT?” (Kids) *Mean Jean growled.* (Jean) “Say, WHO?” (Kids) *Mean Jean howled.*

(Jean) “Say, YOU!” (Kids) *Mean Jean snarled and grabbed Katie Sue by the collar.*

Nobody swings until Queen Jean swings.

Nobody kicks until Queen Jean kicks.

Nobody bounce until Queen Jean bounces

And she figured that would set the record straight.

K15: She figured wrong. Katie Sue talked back.

K16: Just as sassy as could be, she said

Katie Sue: How DID you get so bossy?

ALL: GASP

K1: Then that puny thing, that loony thing,

K2: Grabbed the ball and bounced away.

[Song: “Bouncity Kickety Swingety”]

Bouncity Bouncity Bouncity Bounce

Kickety Kickety Kick

Oh! Katie Sue was one quick kid.

She bolted like lightning and just as quick.

Swingety, Swingety Swingety Swing.

It was cool ‘cept for one big thing.

The girl must be out of her mind.

Mean Jean thundered close behind.

She Bouncity, Kickety, Swingity cruised.

The Recess Queen was NOT amused.

She raced and chased – oh how she flew –

And in-your-faced that Katie Sue.

No one spoke,

No one moved,

No one BREATHEd.

K3: Then from her pack pulled Katie Sue

K4: A jump rope clean and bright.

Katie Sue: Hey, Jeanie Beanie!

ALL: [small frozen gasp]

K5: Did she just say “Jeanie Beanie?”

Katie Sue: Let’s try this jump rope out!

K6: Here’s one thing true – until that day

K7: No one DARED ask Mean Jean to play.

K8: But that Katie Sue just hopped and jumped and skipped away.

Katie Sue: (sings) “I like ice-cream, I like tea. I want Jean to jump with me!”

K9: Jean just gaped and stared

K10: As if too SCARED to move at all.

K11: So Katie Sue sang once more.

Katie Sue: (sings) “I like popcorn, I like tea. I want Jean to jump with me!”

K12: Then from the side a kid called out,

K13: “GO, JEAN, GO!”

K14: And too surprised to even shout,

K15: Jean jumped in with Katie Sue.

Jean: (sings) “I like cookies, I like tea, I want YOU to jump with me!”

[Song: “Until Mean Jean #5”]

The rope whizzed and slapped, faster, FASTER

The rope spun and flapped, FASTER, FASTER!

Till it caught in a tangled disaster!

(ALL GASP – Katie Sue and Jean stare at each other until Jean laughs)

K16: But they just giggled and JUMPED AGAIN!

[Song: “JEAN FINALE”]

Now the playground is just one great place

Where the sun is shining and we’re all smiling when recess rolls around.

When the school bell goes ringety ringing

Those two girls racing, zingety zinging out the classroom door.

Lovely playground, it’s a happy place, a smiling place, a special place

Now its recess and we all can play ‘cause

Jean doesn’t push kids and smoosh kids and lollapoloosh kids

Jean doesn’t hammer ‘em or slammer ‘em

Or kitz and kajammer ‘em anymore.

Cause she’s having too much fun with her friends

Rompety rompety romping with her friends.

Bouncity, kickety, swingety swing

Hoppity skippety jumpety jump

Ringety zingety YES!

And we’re having so much fun with our friends

Rompety rompety romping with our friends.

Bouncity, kickety, swingety swing

Hoppity skippety jumpety jump

Ringety zingety YES!

Ringety zingety YES!

Ringety zingety YESSSSSSSS! YES!