

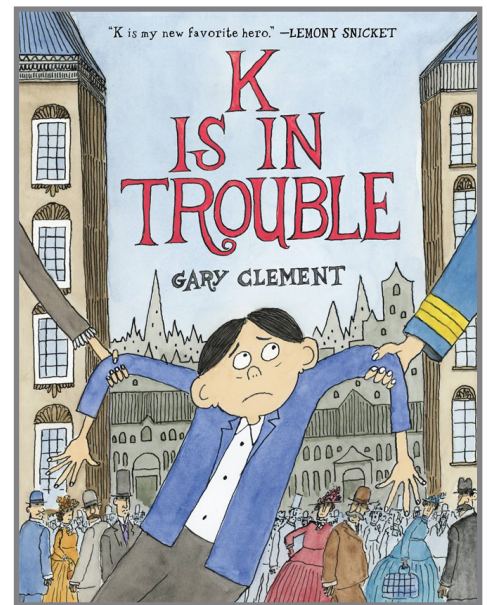
# K is in Trouble

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR  
**GARY CLEMENT**

SCIS: 5478141

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RECOMMENDED FOR: Mid to Upper Primary



## SYNOPSIS

K is nice, polite, and always does as he's told. K is also always, always in trouble.

No matter what he does or says, it seems there is someone ready to blame him for everything. K is in trouble for going to school. K is in trouble for staying home. K is in trouble for running an errand, getting sick, or just being thirsty. K gets into trouble with imperious crows, pernickety station agents, bombastic teachers, his own classmates . . . even one nice fresh carp.

Whether it's his easily annoyed parents or prickly pedestrians on the street, K gets on everyone's bad side . . . and he didn't even do anything wrong!

## ABOUT THE CREATOR

Gary Clement is a Canadian artist, cartoonist, illustrator and writer. He is the author and illustrator of several childrens books, among them *The Great Poochini*, which earned Canada's Governor Generals Literary Award in Childrens Literature Illustration, and most recently illustrated *My Winter City*, written by James Gladstone. His illustrations have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and many other newspapers and magazines across North America. *K Is in Trouble* is his debut graphic novel.

## STUDY NOTES

- *K is in Trouble* contains several different stories. How are they similar or different, and how do they connect? What might your reading experience or opinion of K as a character have been like if you'd read them in a different order?
- There are some words that might be unfamiliar in *K is in Trouble*: as you read, make a list and use a thesaurus to check their meanings. What's your favourite new word, and how can you use it?
- The book includes German language, but do you think *K is in Trouble* is set in a world or time like ours? Why or why not? Use particular examples from the book to support your opinion (a talking fish might be a good place to start. . .)
- In each story, K finds himself 'in trouble'—from the teachers at school, his parents at home, even strangers on the street! For each story, consider whether or not you think K deserves to be in trouble and why. Using persuasive language, write a short paragraph to convince K's parents of your opinion!
- Have you been in trouble before, perhaps at home or at school? How did it make you feel? What did you learn from the experience?
- Do you have mornings where you feel like you don't want to leave the house, just like K? What strategies could help?

- K often finds himself feeling abandoned or alone. How does that affect his actions? What could you do if you or someone in your class was feeling like K?
- Choose an image of K from your favourite story that has minimal text. What clues are there in Gary Clement's illustrations to show how K is feeling?
- *K is in Trouble* is a graphic novel. How did this format affect your reading experience and enjoyment of the book? How might it have been different if *K is in Trouble* was presented as just prose, without the illustrations?