



CARTER HIGH[®]
CHRONICLES



DON'T
Blame Me



Chapter 1

June was in science class. It was her last class of the day. It was almost time for class to start. Mrs. Frey was her teacher.

June sat next to Rose. Rose was her best friend. They were both on the volleyball team.

“I wish Zack was in this class,” June said.

Zack was her boyfriend.

Rose said, “Why? Because you like him so much?”

“I do like him a lot. But that isn’t why. He called last night. He needed help on science. His teacher isn’t doing

what we are doing. So I couldn't help him," June said.

Rose said, "Too bad. I hope he can find someone to help him."

The bell rang.

Mrs. Frey started class. Mrs. Frey said, "Get out your homework. We will go over it first."

June and Rose quickly got out their homework.

"Gail, you tell us the first answer," Mrs. Frey said.

Gail sat on the other side of the room. She started to give her answer. But she was very quiet. It was hard to hear her.

"Can you hear her? I can't," Rose said to June.

Mrs. Frey said, "June, stop talking. Class has started."

That made June mad. She was not talking.

June said loudly, "I was not talking. So don't blame me for something I didn't do."

Rose quickly said, "Sorry, Mrs. Frey. I was the one talking. Not June."

"So you were wrong. It wasn't me," June said.

Mrs. Frey said, "See me after class, June."

"Why? I didn't do anything," June said.

"Be quiet, June. Just stay," Rose said. But she said it so only June could hear her.

June didn't say any more. But she was mad. Why should she have to stay? She had not done anything wrong. She was not the one who was talking.

June was glad when class was over. She was ready to get out of that class. But first she had to find out what Mrs. Frey wanted.

She walked over to Mrs. Frey's desk.
Rose walked over there too.

The rest of the class hurried out of the room.

Rose said, "Did you want to see me too, Mrs. Frey? I was the one talking. Not June."

"No, Rose. Only June," Mrs. Frey said.

Rose looked at June. She said, "I'll wait for you in the hall, June."

Rose hurried out into the hall.

June said, "Why do you want to talk to me? Rose told you she was the one talking. Not me."

Mrs. Frey said, "It is not about who was talking. I am worried about you, June."

That surprised June.

"Why are you worried about me? There isn't anything wrong with me," June said.

“You are quick to lose your temper, June. Don’t let your temper get the best of you. It hurts you when you do,” Mrs. Frey said.

June didn’t let her temper get the best of her. So she didn’t know why Mrs. Frey said that.

“Is that all you wanted to see me about?” June asked.

“Yes,” Mrs. Frey said.

June said, “Can I go now? I have volleyball practice.”

Mrs. Frey said, “Yes, June. But think about what I said.”

Why? What Mrs. Frey said about her quick temper was not true.

June hurried out of the class. She could hardly wait to go to volleyball practice.



Chapter 2

Rose was waiting for June in the hall.

“Does Mrs. Frey still think you were talking?” Rose asked.

June said, “That wasn’t what she wanted. She said she was worried about me.”

Rose looked surprised. She said, “Why?”

“She thinks I let my temper get the best of me. I don’t know why she thinks that,” June said.

Rose didn’t say anything.

The girls went to their lockers. Then

they hurried to volleyball practice. They were the last to get there. They quickly got ready to practice.

“Run in place first,” Coach Dale said.

The girls ran in place for about five minutes.

Coach Dale blew her whistle. Then she said, “Now time to do stretching exercises.”

It helped June to run. And to do the exercises. She was no longer upset with Mrs. Frey.

Coach Dale said, “You all need to practice your serves. Be sure you get the ball over the net. Try to place the ball where you want it. And not just anywhere on the court.”

June and Rose practiced their serves. Then they practiced how to pass and set and spike. And they practiced how to block.

All of the girls worked on the drills for about 20 minutes.

Then Coach Dale said, "Time to play our first game. Same teams as last time. Keep your mind on the game. And not on something else."

The starting team played the back-up team. June and Rose were both on the starting team.

"Rose, you serve first," Coach Dale said.

"Show them how well you can serve," June said.

Rose served better than anyone on the team.

Rose hit an overhand serve. It was a good serve. The other team wasn't able to hit it back. June's team got a point.

"Way to go, Rose," June said.

Rose hit three more good serves. And June's team got three more points.

"Keep it up, Rose," June said.

Then Rose hit a serve out of bounds.

“Too bad, Rose. But we got four points,” June said.

Kim served next. She was on the back-up team. Her serve hit the net.

June didn’t think Kim was a good player. She was glad Kim was not on the starting team.

Soon it was June’s turn to serve. June got ready to serve.

Coach Dale said, “Watch where your feet are, June. And be sure to stay behind the line when you serve.”

June looked down. Her feet were not on the line.

“My feet aren’t on the line,” June said.

Why did Coach Dale say that to her? She didn’t say that to the other girls.

But sometimes June forgot to watch where her feet were. And she was standing on the line.



CARTER HIGH[®] C H R O N I C L E S

Back-Up Quarterback
The Best Week Ever
Boy of Their Dreams
Don't Blame Me
The Easy Way

The Fastest Runner
It Is Not a Date
One Date Too Many
The Right Kind of Win
Too Late

June has a hair-trigger temper and it gets her in trouble on the volleyball court. Coach Dale kicks her off the team, and her boyfriend breaks up with her. Her friends Rose and Kim try to help.



LEXILE HL260L

ISBN-13: 978-1-61651-306-1



9 781616 513061