



## ***A Girl Called Harry - Philippa Werry***

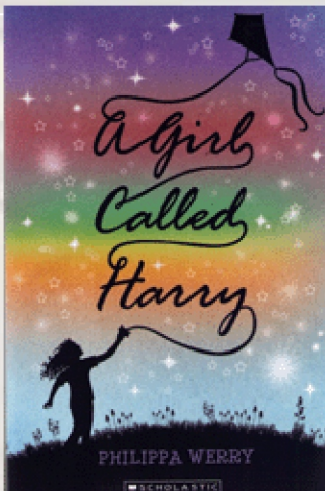
**Published by Scholastic, RRP \$19.50.**

The imaginative Harry is secure in her place with her school friends, some of whom she's known since kindergarten. She's admired for being artistic and thinking up lots of good ideas for class projects.

However, her self-confidence takes a tumble when a new girl joins the class. Mallory fits in easily and is soon the centre of attention, whereas Harry finds herself on the outer. Her life is on a downhill slide. Her father is out of work and anxious, while her mother is too tired from a new job to talk with her daughter.

Harry is a likeable thirteen-year-old. She means well and tries hard to overcome her difficulties. Her train of thought is hilarious. Although her wild assumptions about people lead to embarrassing situations. Her new neighbours get drawn into the plot and offer friendship to the lonely Harry. Her uncle's colony of cats are characters in their own right. Gradually, Harry begins to question her beliefs about other people and her critical viewpoint wavers. Her internal conversation is well-written and believable. The author gives a perceptive, amusing glimpse into the highs and lows of a classroom of adolescents. An excellent gift for pre-teen girls.

**Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett.**



**Author's Website:**

[www.philippawerry.co.nz](http://www.philippawerry.co.nz)

**Promoting the enjoyment of children's literature.**