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Oh No, Bobo! You're in Trouble

Liz Kazandzhy

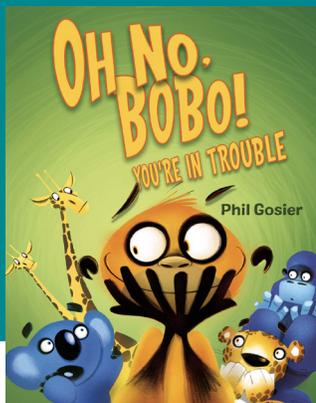
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Book Review

Oh No, Bobo! You're in Trouble

Author

Phil Gosier

Illustrator

Phil Gosier

Reviewer

Liz Kazandzhy

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Rating

Outstanding

Level

Toddler, Preschool,
Primary

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Pages

32

Year

2019

ISBN

9781250176837

Publisher

Roaring Brook Press

The mischievous monkey Bobo just can't resist stealing the zookeeper's flashlight. But when he and his koala friend Fifi start playing with it, the flashlight stops working, to which Fifi is quick to respond "You're in ... TROUBLE!" Fifi's exclamations soon catch the attention of all the zoo animals. They watch as Bobo unsuccessfully tries to fix the flashlight and then frantically runs around asking for help, which only makes the situation worse. Fifi eventually promises not to tattle on Bobo, but only in exchange for some compliments. Finally, when the zookeeper finds the flashlight, it turns out the problem was simple—it just needed new batteries. Bobo is naturally upset that Fifi made him worry about such a small problem, and the final page shows him angrily chasing her while exclaiming "Now you're in trouble!"

This simple story is both action-packed and hilarious. The illustrations resemble a comic book more than a traditional one, with several similar pictures on each page showing the progression of events—for example, Bobo first curiously looking down from a tree, then quickly scurrying down, sneaking the flashlight away, and jumping off to go play with it. This is the perfect way of illustrating such an energetic plot, highlighting the many priceless expressions of Bobo, Fifi, and the other animals at each moment. The colorful, vivid, and clear drawings leave nothing wanting, and the text is placed in creative ways and often uses dramatic fonts that further portray Bobo's anxiety and contribute to the humor of the book. Siblings will relate to the close yet somewhat tumultuous relationship between Bobo and Fifi, and all children will relate to the perils of getting in trouble. In fact, even though the book is primarily meant for entertainment, it can be used by parents to teach how problems that seem big to children can sometimes be easily resolved by telling an adult. Ultimately, this book will offer a healthy dose of humor to any reader, and it's one of those books you can read over and over without tiring of it.