Troll and the Oliver

Aylea Stephens

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**Title:** Troll and the Oliver  
**Author:** Adam Stower  
**Reviewer:** Aylea Stephens  
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**Number of Pages:** 28  
**Interest Level:** Toddler, Preschool, Primary  
**Rating:** Outstanding

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**Review**

All Troll wants is to be able to eat an Oliver. However, catching an Oliver is tricky and no matter what Troll does, he has a hard time succeeding. Oliver won’t stand still and let himself get caught. By spring, Troll becomes discouraged because all he has had to eat are twigs and stones. The next day the Oliver is on the lookout for Troll, but Troll never comes. Just when Oliver thinks he has won, the tables turn and Troll has a chance to get what he wants.

*Troll and the Oliver* is the kind of book that delivers constant giggles and maybe even a gasp of surprise. Stower makes the unusual choice of having a child as the antagonist, but he still makes Oliver fun and the reader is able to root for him and Troll at the same time. The story from the Troll’s point of view is unique in that Troll is the hero in the story instead of a villain like a troll normally would be. Troll’s facial expressions in the illustrations are amusing, varying from surprised to angry to pleased. Readers of all ages will enjoy reading about how Oliver and Troll are able to set aside their differences for something they have in common.