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Fall Is Not Easy



Synopsis

You've got to feel sorry for your average tree. It's got a lot to worry about: squirrels, thunderstorms, kids building forts. Oh, yes, and then there's that pesky business about changing colors for the fall...

Main character in *Fall Is Not Easy* is a tree that has its share of troubles with its fall colors. No matter what pattern its leaves change into--a smiley face, a spotted cow, an "Eat at Joe's" sign--nothing seems to work out quite right. How will the tree solve its seasonal dilemma? Leave it to Marty Kelley, author/illustrator of *Summer Stinks* and *The Rules* to come up with the perfect solution.

Book Information

Age Range: 3 and up

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Customer Reviews

Ages 3⁺-5. A tree complains that the other seasons are simple (winter, bare branches; spring, new leaves; summer, basking in the sun) but that fall presents problems: "Green leaves turn colors, / But mine all look strange." Indeed they do, as the tree tries out more designs than a fashion model: rainbow, yellow smiley face, red-and-white stripes, purple-on-yellow polka dots, black-on-white cow hide, and a fair representation of a hamburger with lettuce. The simplicity of concept is realized through accessible artwork and a rhyming text that flows along as clear and unassuming as the watercolor illustrations. Although the same tree appears centered on every page, each picture is different, either because of the subtle changes through the seasons or the blatantly obvious color changes that reflect a good understanding of a young child's sense of humor. Librarians complain that there are never enough simple picture books on autumn, trees, and leaves to fill teachers'

requests. This book will help fill that need, but remember to keep a copy for preschool story hour.

Carolyn Phelan

Accessible artwork and a rhyming text that flows along as clear and unassuming as the watercolor illustrations. -- Booklist
In visual humor that will elicit shrieks of laughter, the tree bursts into one inappropriate image after another. -- The Bloomsbury Review
The author has used the tree to teach young readers about the seasons, and also about differences and tolerance. -- Children's Literature magazine

Great book for preschool and early elementary children. I read it every year to my preschoolers and it was also a hit with my granddaughter's kindergarten class when I was their guest reader.

One of my all time favorite books from Marty Kelley! It is funny and teaches us never to give up.

My kindergarten students were delighted with the surprising twist this book took. An instant favorite for all of us.

one of my favorite go-to books especially in the fall when the trees are changing colors! Makes the children laugh every time. They want to hear it over and over again!

Quite possibly the best picture book ever written.

Great book for preschool and early elementary children. I read it every year to my preschoolers and it was also a hit with my granddaughter's kindergarten class when I was their guest reader.

Very cute book. Found a site online that has print outs to use with this story. Looking forward to reading it to my class

This is one of my all time favorite children's books -- a simple and easy story about seasons for a 2 year old and a great insight into a preschooler's emerging sense of humor over the next few years. Right up there with Good Night Moon and Where the Wild Things Are, it is really just perfect.

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