



Lollipop and Grandpa and the Christmas Baby

Books Reviewed:

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Reviewer:

[Lucy Staines](#) [3]

~~Not a Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

4

Lollipop's mum is having a baby, and the most exciting news, says Dad, is that the baby will be born in time for Christmas. Already a big sister, Lollipop knows three things about babies: they cry, most of the time; they are really stinky; and, worst of all, everybody loves them. Her Christmas is ruined!

Fortunately, when mum and dad head off to hospital, Lollipop's grandpa is left in charge and, as fans of the [previous books](#) [4] in this lovely series will know, he always makes things fun. Soon, the Christmas tree is adorned with kitchen implements ? very sparkly ? and the house festooned with paper chains. When Mum and Dad still aren't back on Christmas morning, Grandpa takes charge again organising games, carol singing and chestnut roasting. The turkey defeats him but he rustles up an impromptu Christmas feast of sandwiches and the biggest knickerbocker glory Lollipop has ever seen! The book ends of course with the arrival home of the new baby and yes, it is Lollipop's best Christmas ever after all.

This is a lovely Christmas story, one that puts family at the heart of the celebrations, and it's a fun addition to the catalogue of books about new siblings too. However, this book really shines as a celebration of the special relationship between a little girl and her grandpa. Unlike lots of picture book grandpas, this one is lively, eccentric and mischievous, always ready to play games and to make time for his granddaughter. Penelope Harper's text provides a wonderfully accurate child's eye view of the goings on, and Cate James' stylish, spiky illustrations are instantly appealing. Recommended for all the family.

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