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## Review of *Waterloo and Trafalgar* by Olivier Tallec

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*Waterloo & Trafalgar*

*Tallec, Olivier*

*Enchanted Lion Books: New York, 2012*

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Waterloo and Trafalgar are the names of this book's characters, but also represent two disappointing failures of the Napoleonic French army. Olivier Tallec's wordless picture book creatively exposes the futility of war and the necessity and natural order of human fraternity and reconciliation. Because the book has no words, Tallec relies heavily on his illustrations, which are incredibly innovative and deceptively simple. Reminiscent of many illustrations from decades past, Tallec crafts two characters who hold animosity towards each other but who, upon accidental confrontation, recognize all they have to gain in brotherhood. The simplicity of the story adds to the effectiveness of the message, which even the youngest reader can easily comprehend.

Highly Recommended

James Sandberg, Centennial Library Intern