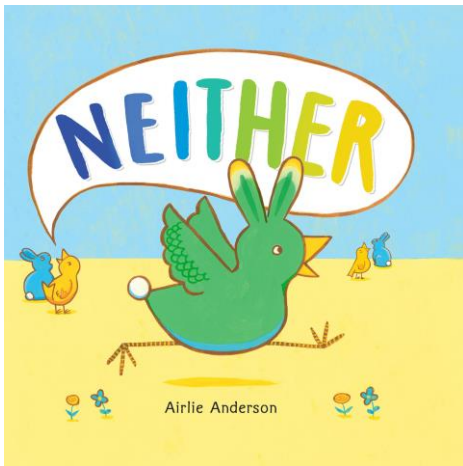


Book Resume: Neither



Neither by Airlie Anderson

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2018

ISBN: 9780316547697 (hardcover), 9780316547710 (board book)

*Age Range: 1-8 (Suggested by Publisher)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

In this colorful and touching story that celebrates what makes each of us unique, a little creature that's not quite a bird and not quite a bunny—it's "neither"—searches for a place to fit in.

In the Land of This and That, there are only two kinds: blue bunnies and yellow birds. But one day a funny green egg hatches, and a little creature that's not quite a bird and not quite a bunny pops out. It's neither!

Neither tries hard to fit in, but its bird legs aren't good for jumping like the other bunnies, and its fluffy tail isn't good for flapping like the other birds. It sets out to find a new home and discovers a very different place, one with endless colors and shapes and creatures of all kinds. But when a blue bunny and a yellow bird with some hidden differences of their own arrive, it's up to Neither to decide if they are welcome in the Land of All.

This colorful, simple, and touching story promotes diversity and offers a valuable lesson to the youngest of audiences: it is our differences that unite us.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Anderson (Cat's Colors) tackles exclusion, difference, and identity in a sweet-tempered fable.... Anderson's candy-colored palette and adorable cast of creatures reflect a spectrum of states of being, creating a book that works as a resource for conversations about race, blended identities, gender norms, and more." —Publishers Weekly

"This stands out for its accessibility to even very young read-aloud audiences. A sweet story of acceptance for all those who are this, that, neither, either, and everything in between." —Kirkus

"Hits all right notes and is filled with fun, fantastical creatures to boot." —School Library Journal

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“A positive celebration of diversity and how our world is a better place when everyone is included.” —*The Reading Eagle*

“Features key parts of the transgender experience and is perfect for kids in kindergarten through second grade.” —Out.com

“Cute... This sweet, simple parable could be used as a conversation starter about gender, race, and/or identity with very young children.” —*School Library Connection*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- 2019 Rainbow Book List Selection

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Neither Activity Sheet](#)
- [LGBTQ Reads – Neither Author-Illustrator Airlie Anderson on Creating a Genderfluid Picture Book](#)
- ["Neither" by Airlie Anderson is a great way to talk about difference, inclusion, and the limits of binary thinking](#)
- [Queer Kid Stuff - AUTHOR Q&A with Airlie Andersen](#)
- [Pop Goes the Page – Interview with Airlie Anderson about Neither](#)
- [The Children's Book Podcast – Airlie Anderson](#)

AUTHOR STATEMENT

I think a lot of us, at one time or another, feel that we're neither this nor that—that we don't fit in. Or maybe we know someone who has these feelings. When I was dreaming up the idea for *Neither*, I didn't imagine that its theme of in-between-ness would be considered controversial.

As a bookmaker, my goal for *Neither* was to inspire, comfort, and maybe even offer a new way of looking at things. This book is for absolutely anyone who feels that they don't fit a stereotype, and anyone who finds beauty in non-conformity. In my opinion, banning this book is saying: “You must be either this or that. Conform! There is no room for nuance.” And I think we could all benefit from pausing in the in-between, to have a good think about grey areas, and to be open minded enough to read a story about a bunny-bird without fear.

*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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