



2020

### Peanut Goes for the Gold

Amanda Morgan

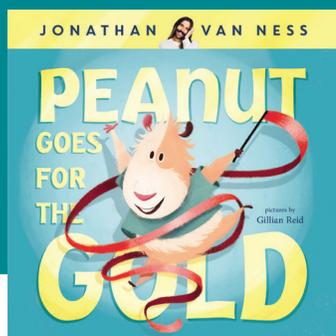
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## Book Review

# Peanut Goes for the Gold

### Author

Jonathan Van Ness

### Illustrator

Gillian Reid

### Reviewer

Amanda Morgan

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### Rating

Excellent

### Level

Preschool, Primary

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### Pages

32

### Year

2020

### ISBN

9780062941008

### Publisher

HarperCollins

Peanut the hamster is very unique, doing silly things that some people don't understand. Even though they are sometimes called weird, they don't mind, especially because most people just think it's fun. One day, Peanut decides they want to be a rhythmic gymnast. Dad makes a costume, Mom practices choreography, and their sibling arranges the music. Practicing hard everywhere when the day comes, Peanut forgets to tie their shoes, but they don't let that stop them from doing the best routine they can.

Van Ness, a hairdresser and TV personality best known for his work in *Queer Eye*, offers a story inspired by his childhood pet hamster. The story is immensely positive, since their own mistakes, or even other people's opinions, can't bring Peanut down. This can teach readers about having confidence in every situation while also providing some exposure to they/them pronouns. The story, however, lacks excitement. There's no major conflict and therefore no satisfying resolution. The target audience of children ages 4 to 5 years old may still enjoy the book though, simply for the charm of Peanut the hamster and the adorable illustrations.