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# The King Of The Birds



## Synopsis

In this picture book, inspired by the life of Flannery O'Connor, a young fan of fowl brings home a peacock to be the king of her collection, but he refuses to show off his colorful tail. The girl goes to great lengths to encourage the peacock to display his plumage; she throws him a party, lets him play in the fig tree, feeds him flowers and stages a parade; all to no avail. Then she finally stumbles on the perfect solution. When she introduces the queen of the birds; a peahen; to her collection, the peacock immediately displays his glorious shimmering tail. This delightful story, full of humor and heart, celebrates the legacy of a great American writer. Includes an author's note about Flannery O'Connor.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 44 pages

Publisher: Groundwood Books (September 13, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1554988519

ISBN-13: 978-1554988518

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.6 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #156,763 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > United States #361 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds #497 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pets

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

Flannery O'Connor once was on the news as a child showing everyone how she had trained a chicken to walk backwards. She was a strong willed fowl enthusiast with a knack for opening people's eyes to forgiveness. As an adult she surrounded herself with a massive collection of ducks, swans, Guinea hens, and peacocks. She wrote stories that, "un-hid people's ugly, mean parts and proved that everybody - even preachers and grandmothers - needs to be forgiven". In the story, "The King of the Birds" Acree Graham Macam introduces us to a story inspired by Flannery's childhood. We meet a little girl who has taught a chicken to walk backwards. After all of the fame has worn away Flannery feels like life is too quiet. Flannery believes that by adding more birds to her

collection that that would do the trick, however it does the opposite. She decides to add a peacock to her flock and make him the king of all the birds. When the "king" arrived she placed a crown on his head and he did not feel like showing off his beautiful feathers. Flannery threw the peacock a party, let him play in a fig tree, let him feast of flowers, and even threw him a parade in his honor. No matter what she did she could not make the "king" show his beautiful plumage. You will have to pick up this story on September 1st to find out if the "king" ever shows his tail feathers and if anyone ever felt quiet again. @astoryaday

This is such a creative kids book! I love that it is about Flannery and that I get to introduce my little ones to Flannery early on in life. I have read this book to a couple groups of kids now and each time it has lead to art projects about birds. I think a teacher could use this for a unit in school pretty easily!

Beautifully written and illustrated book. Our 15 month old did not attempt to eat any of the pages.

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