



Bright Star, Night Star: An Astronomy Story

Karl Beckstrand, Luis F Sanz

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A picture book about the night sky--Bright Star, Night Star activities include finding constellations, planets, the moon, sun, and other heavenly bodies. It has vivid illustrations for language comprehension (ages 4 - 10) and American Indian characters. Expose your child to the starry skies (and a little space science). Also an ebook: Premio Publishing & Gozo Books, LLC (worldwide rights, Feb. 2014, SEE INSIDE)

Premiobooks.com, Baker & Taylor, Brodart, EBSCO, Follett Library Resources/Title Wave, Ingram, Mackin, Bn.com/NOOK, Kindle/Amazon.com, iTunes, and select retailers. 30-page, 8.5"x8.5" perfect-bound, paper, 400 words, written by Karl Beckstrand, illustrated by Luis F. Sanz, ISBN: 978-0615856155 (ebook ISBN: 978-1310128097), LCCN: 2013913403, JNF051040, JUV011040, JUV036000, JUV010000, JUV020000, JUV054000

Bright Star, Night Star: An Astronomy Story Details

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Author : Karl Beckstrand , Luis F Sanz

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From Reader Review Bright Star, Night Star: An Astronomy Story for online ebook

Little House says

I really didn't like this book. It is in rhyme, and it seems like a lot of it is just nonsense. I really have issues that listed the planets and threw in one of Jupiter's moons. It was right there in the list of planets (with Pluto, which isn't really a planet either) with no explanation. Seems misleading.

I guess that this would be a good book to introduce vocabulary, if you know enough about the topic to explain it to your kids, but if you can define blue straggler, shell star, and Europa, then why do you need a book that just uses these words to make rhymes. I would skip this book and go for something that is actually educational or at least fun.

Toi Thomas says

I liked the book, but I thought it would be a bit more comprehensive. I thought it would be an actual story, but it's more of a series of poems (they can be read separately or together as a whole). The images were lovely, however, there were a few times that the text and images didn't go well together (the words were hard to read). Still, all in all, it's a nice bedtime read (not so great for teaching astronomy).

Recommended as a good night time story.

Ben Truong says

Bright Star, Night Star: An Astronomy Story is a children's picture book written by Karl Beckstrand and illustrated by Luis F. Sanz, which is a book about the stars and other celestial bodies.

Beckstrand's text is rather simple, straightforward, and rather poetic. It conveys the wonderment we have for the universe. However, the text is just a list of astronomical words with no definition or glossary in the back to define the words used. Sanz's illustration are simply wonderful and is the crux of the activities that one can explore – finding constellations, planets, the moon, sun, and other heavenly bodies.

The premise of the book is rather straightforward. It is main a myriad of astronomical terms with little or no definition, while the younger side of the target audience might like the rhythm of the book – it could just be easily written with a bunch of random words and terms, because the terms are undefined and it's up to the reader to know what is going on.

All in all, *Bright Star, Night Star: An Astronomy Story* is a great children's book about things we could find in the night sky. I just wished that the terms used were explained and defined more or have an added glossary in the back.

[Shai] Bibliophage says

I like the idea that this picture book for kids wants to teach them about astronomy, but it only contains words and doesn't explain what those are. The rhyming of words and the illustrations are both okay, but there's no concrete story or further explanation on the content of this book. Therefore, instead that will serve as to enlighten or teach, it will only confuse young readers on what they will read here.

La La - Everyone's Crazy Aunt says

The content was not picture book level. There were too many big scientific words with no explanations, not that picture book aged tots would understand it anyway. It is confusing, too, because it mixes in fantasy words with the scientific terms, and there were misplaced words; including the name of a moon in with a group of planets. The author also used the term "yellow star" for our sun which is improper. This is another clueless author who thinks anything can be a kids' book if it has pictures and sort of rhymes.

Cats of Ulthar February Weird Fiction says

Pure delight! I love the concepts, I love the illustrations. Gives a lot of astronomy concepts in a brief narrative list, almost poetic. I also appreciated its diversity.

Alexandra says

Great idea, but execution is wanting. Lots of words thrown out, big words, with no explanation. No story, no narrative cohesiveness. Not a good introduction for the intended audience age IMO.

The blurb considers this one from age 4, *to 10*, causing me more reason to think the targeted audience isn't really well understood by the producers of this one. Ten year olds aren't typically reading picture books.

I think it's too abstract with many, many unexplained big words for aged 4-ish (a reasonable age range for picture book readers), not much to hook those short attention spans, and much too jumbled and incoherent for those in the 10-ish range, who are old enough for much better books on the topic.

Arlenis Ralfsdóttir says

Some stars live ten billion years. But you are older than the stars. You and I are made of stardust. We will go on forever...

Ilustraciones realmente bellisimas. Es un libro bastante bueno, menciona muchos tipos de estrellas, constelaciones y acontecimientos del universo, sin embargo para un niño de entre 4 a 9 años como esta catalogado el rango de edad, creo que seria muy poco esclarecedor. El niño en definitiva quedaría con muchas dudas sobre cosas mencionadas en el libro. Pero sigue siendo un buen libro para dormir con una buena prosa e ilustraciones a color bonitas que en definitiva dejaría al niño pidiendo mas y muy probablemente lo adentre al mundo de la astronomía.

Amy "the book-bat" says

There was no real plot or story. It was mostly just lists of vaguely astronomy related words. I was disappointed that none of the words were defined in any way. The illustrations were ok, but often didn't go with the list of words. At least it was a freebie.

Teresa says

This book is great on a couple of levels. First of all it is written in rhyme. Small kid love rhyming books, at least mine do. The book is written about stars which is something that can be seen by everyone, so it makes it real for the kids, my kids tend to like stories that have an actual real subject to them. This book would make a great bedtime story for the kids, the stars come out at night, Right?

The book features a few tips, like how to find the North Star. The books does not actually feature certain stars and give a scientific history so to speak of it but instead it is more like a bunch of describing words about stars in general. Some of the words are quite large and would not be good for smaller children to try and read themselves, but as a parent I have no problem reading the book to them. It is a very short book but actually filled with a lot of stuff all related to stars.

The illustrations in this book are top notch. They are very colorful and quite busy. The kids loved looking at the pictures, and actually have my tablet right now looking at the book again.

Angela Lambkin says

what a great textbook of astronomy for 4-9 year olds!

I liked it! but I thought it was an awful lot of info for this age group perhaps or perhaps not. I did find a couple of typos though like 'May' should have been "Day", yes? I also think that one who loves to read poetry as well astronomy will get a lot of fun of this particular ebook. These are my thoughts of why I rated this as a four star book. Yet, I would still like to recommend this also for 4-9 yr. olds and or in grades K-4. I received this for free and in return, here is my honest review.

Super job though with so much info in one ebook for this age level Karl! By Sunny.

Julie Barrett says

Bright Star, Night Star: An Astronomy Story by Karl Beckstrand

Colorful children and adult book about the stars and galaxies.

Starts out with a treasure hunt. Love the picture of all the constellations specified on the next page.

Never knew they also had signs in the constellations. Dark background with handwritten letters makes it difficult to read but the pages can be enlarged.

Love rhyming parts also. So much to learn about them all. Other works by the author are listed at the end.

Stacey says

As a stargazer who is passionate about sharing my love of creation with younger generations I am always looking for books that are fun but that offer an educational element too. This book is touted as a multi-cultural book, more than an educational storybook, which perplexed me, because the multi-cultural element really doesn't apply. This is a children's book...for all children. It has rhyming verse that includes words that may have to be looked up in a dictionary or online, nice multi-visual artwork which features a young girl learning about the heavenly bodies, and most story frames feature a constellation shape for children to find. I wish it had offered more information on where to look for the constellations and described the constellations in more detail as the story progressed, but perhaps younger children would have been lost. So a good read, but could have offered more.

Arleen K. Gallup says

Not what i expected...

It was disappointing. Started as rhymes but didn't carry through. Mostly lists of "star words." I thought it would be fun to read to my granddaughter. It wasn't. Glad I got it free. Read a sample if possible - you may feel differently, but I found it a waste of time.

Montzalee Wittmann says

Ok story

Lots of astronomy words but not the meanings. Nice art work. Could've been more information instead of just listing astronomy words.
