



Secrets of the Night Sky: Most Amazing Things in the Universe You Can See with the Naked Eye, The

Bob Berman , Alan McKnight (Illustrator)

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From blue moons to Betelgeuse, it's all in this witty, fact-packed, profusely illustrated guide to the heavens by the author of *Discover* magazine's popular "Night Watchman" column.

Secrets of the Night Sky: Most Amazing Things in the Universe You Can See with the Naked Eye, The Details

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Author : Bob Berman , Alan McKnight (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Secrets of the Night Sky: Most Amazing Things in the Universe You Can See with the Naked Eye, The for online ebook

Linda says

I love this book! It teaches such a variety of things about astronomy in an exciting, accessible, and enjoyable manner. It's fun to dip into over and over as the seasons pass. There's so much that's unique and beautiful right outside--simply look up!

Joseph Mais says

I really loved this book. It was a very digestable discussion of space and the night sky, filled with fun facts and information. I learned a ton and had lots to think about. What a treat!

Melki says

M87 is among the largest galaxies known, a gargantuan elliptical blob that will never win a beauty award. Still, it's the largest *ball* in the universe. It consists of several trillion suns, give or take a few, and probably the same number of planets. This means that if you were given the task of counting its stars -- not visiting them, or cataloging their characteristics, but merely counting -- and managed to run through ten every second, the assignment would last from the last ice age until the present time.

Holy crap!

As if looking at the night sky isn't amazing enough, little facts like the one above can push you right off the edge into la la land. And this book is filled with little facts like that one! Berman takes you through the year, pointing out things to look for (with only your naked eye!) and filling the rest of your time with tasty tidbits and fascinating stories about the universe. Constellations, meteors, black holes and the possibility of Earthlings relocating to other planets are all discussed.

Originally published in 1995, the book *is* a little dated now. The amazing celestial events mentioned by the author have mostly come and gone, though if you live in the U.S., mark your calendar -- there's going to be a solar eclipse on August 21, 2017. Don't miss it!

Hajra1823 says

Secrets of the Night Sky focuses on spectacular occurrences that can be seen with the naked eye and the secrets that you can discover as you read this book. It is the only book out there that focuses on the most amazing things in the universe in simple yet detailed content without boring the reader. Bob Berman, the author, has a sense of humor and a writing style that entertained me while I was reading. The author's point

of view is to inform and help the reader understand how and why natural phenomena in the sky happen. Talking about the sky was a broad subject to talk about, but the author somehow made it work. This book is divided into different sections mostly by season- winter, spring, summer, autumn, and a stargazing section. Then they are separated into chapters, from talking about eclipses to getting equipment to go stargazing. The title and the cover page both attract people's attention and they fit with the theme of the book. It had a pretty and simple look to it that made want to get it. Also, there were over 150 detailed and accurate illustrations along with diagrams to enhance the book's message. Something that surprised me was that there were eight bonus color photos that have been captured to show our universe's rare occurrences. Inside the book jacket, you can see what the author is going to talk about. It did not really give much information about what was going to be discussed, it just talked about the author's history. The book jacket says that Bob Berman is the director of the Overlook Observatory. To me, Bob Berman has collected accurate and detailed information and I didn't doubt a single thing. One thing I didn't like was how hard it was to read, mainly because there was no plot. There was nothing to look forward to as I turned the pages. Unlike the other nonfiction books I have read, there were no intense parts of the story or any characters to read about. This book was more of a reference book or a book targeted towards adults. One thing I would change is the point of view to make it more interesting and also include a main character, such as a scientist or astronomer. This way, teenagers and young adults can have fun reading *Secrets of the Night Sky*. Overall, I recommend this book to any adult because this will make them change the way they look at the world.

Sarah Yasin says

Some of the tables are out of date because the projections end around 2008, but the rest of the book is fascinating. It's written with a sense of wonder and I like how key terms are in bold. One little quibble I have is with the book's poor understanding of medieval cosmology. If the Church insisted circular shapes were perfect, then Hildegard von Bingen would have been tried for heresy when she said the universe was an egg.

Overall this is an inspiring read.

Art says

Lots of stuff to think about here, this subject is not really my strong point but it's written in a entertaining manner in a way that lots of people can understand.

Mike Williams says

Everything that makes the universe enchanting is but a night-time glimpse away, if you just know where to look and what you are looking for. This book and a dark sky are all you need. Simply written for the curious mind.

Matt says

Berman has a sense of humor, captivating writing style, gift for putting things in perspective, ability to bring interesting scientific/universal concepts down to earth (literally, ha, ha!), he dwells on fascinating subjects, and he is an entertaining short story teller.
