



The Fallen Star

Tracey Hecht, Kate Liebman (Illustrations)

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In *The Fallen Star*, Dawn, Tobin, and Bismark awaken one evening to a disaster: all of the forest's pomelos have been mysteriously poisoned! As the Nocturnal Brigade sets out to investigate, they encounter Iris, a mysterious aye-aye, who claims monsters from the moon are to blame. While the three heroes suspect a more earthly explanation, the animals of the valley are all falling ill. And then Tobin gets sick, too! The Nocturnal Brigade must race to find answers, and the cure, before the pomelo blight threatens to harm them all.

The Fallen Star Details

Date : Published May 2nd 2017 by Fabled Films Press

ISBN : 9781944020057

Author : Tracey Hecht , Kate Liebman (Illustrations)

Format : Hardcover 208 pages

Genre : Childrens, Middle Grade, Fiction, Animals, Adventure, Juvenile

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From Reader Review The Fallen Star for online ebook

Tori Kelley says

I was mailed this book as an ARC (advanced reading copy) and wanted to give it an honest review in return. This was the first chapter book my seven year old daughter ever let me read to her. And then the five year old came in and he was also hooked. They loved it! Fraught with age-appropriate peril, my kids were deep in thought about what would happen next and truly cared about the characters. Bismark was good for laughs with his multi-lingual personality. The story held their attention to the end. Brava, Tracey Hecht!

M. says

What a cute book and a fun read!

Lourdes says

I really enjoyed the characters and their adventures.

Review to follow.

Crystal ☆ Lost in Storyland says

3.5 stars.

I enjoyed this book much more than the first two books. The conflict was intriguing and had me worried about the fates of the forest animals. It actually felt like they were in danger, and there was a real mystery here. I would recommend this book to young readers who love animals and would be interested in reading an animal book that takes place in a foreign country!

Full review on the blog. Link below.

Kris @Imaginary Reads

Aaron Schefflin says

A great sequel

Not as good as the original but still great

They used the antagonist in a different way than usual and made him a solid at first but was revealed later on

as a result a finding flowers. Speaking of which the concept of the blue flowers during the scorpion poison was also good plot design when you find out about them.

Stephanie says

3.5 stars

This was the second Nocturnals book I have read (I started with the second book in the series) and this is my favorite one so far. As far as I can tell all of the books, while part of a series, can be read as stand-alone novels.

It was a quick and entertaining read. The plot was fast paced enough to hold even short attention spans while still being entirely coherent. It also introduces readers to rare animals that are likely unfamiliar. The mystery was well done and I honestly didn't see the (view spoiler) coming. There is also a nice message of accepting your differences and being inclusive.

(I received a free arc of this book from the publisher)

Valerie says

I am excited to be here today to bring you a review of the 3rd Nocturnals book! This book is another geared at the middle school age and we once again get to meet up with the friends we made in the first two books. This time the crew has gotten sick and they must work together to solve what is causing it.

I enjoy these books because they have themes that I believe in woven throughout the story. It's not in your face, but done in a tactful way. I appreciate the story very much throughout. My favorite part of these books are the characters. The way that the author writes creates vivid images in my mind.

I enjoyed this book and appreciate the opportunity to read the latest in the series. Thank you!

Disclaimer: I was awarded this book from the publisher. Though I did not pay for the book, the opinions are strictly my own.

Gisselle says

I loved reading this book with my nephews. It was awesome to see their imaginations working as we took turns reading.

The book is creatively written, allowing us to easily get into a detailed discussion about self acceptance and friendship. The characters are witty, likeable, and share an endearing adventure that is fun to unfold. It's the perfect book for children embarking on a passion for reading.

Maria Berg says

This is a fun and unique story. Because I started with the third book in the series, I think I missed some character development, but I enjoyed the collection of animals I wouldn't usually read about. There were a few too many "mon dieu"s for my taste and I found the use of French and Spanish in the same sentence a bit odd. Overall, I enjoyed the story.

Jill says

Dawn, Tobin, and Bismark continue their adventures when they go on a quest to find out what is making the animals in their valley sick. Tobin is poisoned and much of the story is spent looking for a cure. Hecht uses real nocturnal animals found in exotic places. The tale contains lessons about friendship, first impression, and a very interesting biological weapon. This is the third book in the series.

Through a promotion giveaway, the publisher I was randomly chosen to receive this book free. I was under no obligation to write a review. The opinions I have expressed are my own.

Lauren says

In Tracey Hecht's, "The Fallen Star," her readers will find the perfect addition to The Nocturnals series. As Dawn, Bismark, and Tobin begin another heroic crusade, Hecht expands the wonderful world of The Nocturnal Brigade. Her readers will enjoy more of Bismarck's comical chatter and Tobin's goofy heroics. New characters like Aye-aye Iris and the lemurs make an exciting debut. While combining animal facts with a well-devised plot, Hecht yet again creates a story your kids will love!

Neva Womack says

Thoroughly delightful book geared toward 3rd to 5th graders. Met some unusual animals that I, as an adult, had never heard of and had to look up to educate myself - pangolin, aye-aye, woylie, and bilby. I think every elementary school library should have this book and the 2 preceding ones. When I was in elementary school an eternity ago, I had one teacher who read to us after lunch each day. She read some of the most amazing books to us and instilled my love of reading to this day.

wade says

The third in a series of books with unlikely animal heroes, a fox, a pangolin and a sugar glider who call themselves the Nocturnal Brigade. There is always a catastrophe that starts these books and this one begins with a meteor crashing to earth which starts a dangerous chain of events. This book is pure fantasy but does teach about the characteristics of different unusual animals. A humorous subplot deals with the amorous

sugar glider's (Bismark) cross species courtship of the fox (Dawn) who wants nothing to do with his affections. It is a good book for the middle grade audience for which it is intended.

Janice Cafarelli says

I won this book on Goodreads. It's a wonderful book for middle school age kids and as an adult I was wonderfully entranced by the story. There was enough mystery and silliness to keep kids interested. All kinds of excitement happens when a meteor lands in the forest late one night and The Nocturnal Brigade is called into action. Can they find the aliens and save the animals ??

Suzanne says

In their first appearance (*The Mysterious Abductions*), three very different animals - Tobin the pangolin, Bismarck the sugar glider, and Dawn the fox- work together to save themselves from a hungry snake on the very first night they meet. That success leads to the formation of the Nocturnal Brigade, with the three new friends ready to help others. In this third adventure the friends are watching falling stars and see one crash down near their valley. Strange things begin to happen after it lands; plants disappear, animals are poisoned, and strange glowing creatures roam the night. Aye-Aye Iris claims that she has seen things and knows secrets, but she won't share her knowledge. Is she making it up? Did Bismarck's comment that she sounded "loco" make her decide not to help? How will the friends find the answers in time to save all those who have been poisoned?

The Nocturnals features a wide variety of nocturnal animals - foxes, sugar gliders, pangolins, lemurs, kangaroos, bilbies, and bandicoots. Bismarck, the sugar glider, continues with his efforts to impress everyone by using very large words such as atrocious and malodorous. Along with the extra-large words, he also sprinkles words and phrases from other languages into the conversation like exactemente, pas de probleme, and muchacha. This time he even invents a new language called Starspeak that sounds like "Eep Ork, Zip Zop Zoop!" He uses this to try and communicate with alien beings.

Readers who enjoy animal adventures such as *The Guardians of Ga'Hoole* may have a new series to add to their bookshelves. *The Fallen Star* is the third book in the series featuring the Nocturnal Brigade. The friends in the brigade have the same quirks from their other books that will make readers laugh, from Bismarck's over the top declarations of love for Dawn to Tobin's loudly grumbling stomach. There is a website for readers and educators with plenty of resources at <https://www.nocturnalsworld.com/>.

I read an advanced reading copy provided by the publisher for review purposes.
