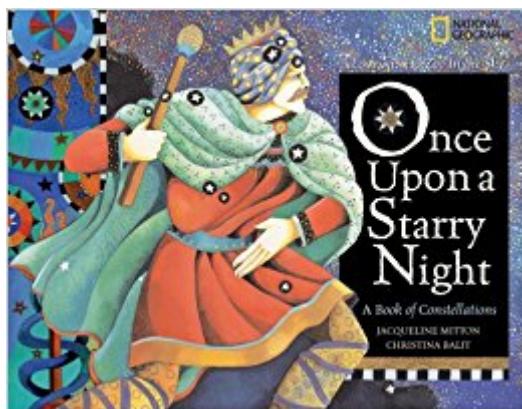


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# Once Upon A Starry Night: A Book Of Constellations



## **Synopsis**

National Geographic's stunning rendition of the constellations' glittering lightshow is now available in paperback. Take an illuminating ride through the starry night sky, and learn how the heavens pay tribute to the gods of Greek and Roman mythology. Once Upon a Starry Night explains the ten ancient figures whose legends are written large across the universe. Every page shines with Christina Balit's vibrant art, studded with shiny stars, and provides the perfect backdrop to Jacqueline Mitton's poetic text.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #196,605 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #81 in Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Star-Gazing #102 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Ancient #123 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Astronomy

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## **Customer Reviews**

Kindergarten-Grade 4-Another welcome entry from the duo that collaborated on *Zoo in the Sky* (1998) and *Kingdom of the Sun* (2001, both National Geographic). The stories come from the Greek and Roman pantheon of gods, goddesses, monsters, and myths, from Cassiopeia to Andromeda, and Perseus to Pegasus. The 10 tales are condensed into a few paragraphs each, which hardly do them justice, but may send children off to investigate further. Each lush, nearly double-page spread is an enticing riot of color and detail that almost overshadows superimposed shiny foil stars delineating the constellations. Endpapers of the Northern and Southern skies help elucidate the stars' arrangement in the night sky. Additional constellations are included in the star maps, with

those considered in the book highlighted in red. Two pages of end material discuss astronomical topics in more detail. This title is a welcome addition to any library. Dona Ratterree, New York City Public Schools Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

K-Gr. 3. Similar in format to *Zoo in the Sky: A Book of Animal Constellations* (1998), this companion volume presents a series of 10 constellations and briefly retells the Greek myths related to them. Each of the main double-page spreads introduces a figure, such as Cassiopeia, Lyra, or Hercules, using a few short paragraphs of text and three-quarter page illustrations in glowing colors. Some of the tales relate to one another in a sequence, while others are told separately. Although the stories are quite short, Mitton's vivid word choices make the text as dynamic as Balit's striking pictures. Partly abstract and partly representational, the artwork features bold figures of mythological characters with silver-foil stars highlighting the points of light that make up the constellations. The final pages offer information about the stars, nebulae, galaxies, and constellations and give astronomical descriptions of the constellations featured. On the endpapers, star maps of the northern and southern skies show the featured constellations in red on black. A lively introduction. Carolyn Phelan Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Beautiful, colorful illustrations to accompany the outlines of the constellations. The text tells the stories associated with the many of the well-known constellations.

I really thought when I ordered the book that we would be able to identify the constellations in the sky. This is basically a history of the constellations.

I bought this for my 6 year-old niece to accompany a globe that also lit up to show the constellations. This is a nicely written book of some of the more popular constellations. Even adults can learn! She really likes it.

My 8 year old grandson is interested in viewing the sky at night through his telescope. This book has helped him locate constellations. He really enjoys it.

Very nice children's book.

I read this book at our libraries Summer reading Program, "Dream Big". I had children ages 3 - 12 in attendance. The book was well received by all. Of course the younger get very restless anyway. Not because of the book, but by their very nature. I did think the pictures were a bit over colored. IT was hard to see where the stars were.

My 4 year old loves constellations so I thought this would be a perfect book for her. The highly stylized illustrations are gorgeous but I thought they made it slightly difficult to clearly discern the principal stars tht make up the constellation in question. Then the stories, though nicely written, seemed a bit short. But to my surprise, she loves this book. I guess the author/illustrator know what they're doing. She asks for it regularly. It's not particularly good for learning how to locate the constellations in the night sky but that's not its intended purpose. She's a little younger than the age range (6-8 i think it said) in the product description but is still able to understand the stories with a little bit of help (eg explaining "vanity" in the cassiopeia section). Overall, a great book for your little stargazer and quite beautiful to look at. Would purchase again.

Contains a surprising number of constellations. Was especially delighted that this book covers the Lyra constellation. My littlest is named for Phillip Pullman's heroine and I enjoyed reading about "her" constellation and the myth surrounding it with her.

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