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And the Sun Stood Still

By Dava Sobel



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And the Sun Stood Still By Dava Sobel

Using her deep knowledge, her skills as a storyteller, and her imagination, Dava Sobel illuminates one of history's most significant and far-reaching meetings. In the spring of 1539, a young German mathematician--Georg Joachim Rheticus--journeyed hundreds of miles to northern Poland to meet the legendary, elderly cleric and reluctant astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus. Some two decades earlier, Copernicus had floated the mind-boggling theory that the Sun, not the Earth, was stationary at the center of the universe, and he was rumored to have crafted a book that could prove it. Though exactly what happened between them can never be known, Rheticus shepherded Copernicus's great work into production and *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* ultimately changed the course of human understanding.

Dava Sobel imagines their dramatic encounter, and with wit and erudition gives them personality. Through clever and dramatic dialogue, she brings alive the months Rheticus and Copernicus spent together--the one a heretical Lutheran, the other a free-thinking Catholic--and in the process illuminates the historic tension between science and religion. An introduction by Dava Sobel will set the stage, putting the scenes in historical context, and an afterword will describe what happened after Copernicus's book was published detailing the impact it had on science and on civilization.



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Editorial Review

Review

"Dava's splendid new book is a play that imagines and reenacts the historic Copernicus-Rheticus encounter. *And the Sun Stood Still: A Play* . . . will delight anyone with an appreciation for the history of science and for the approach of ordinary moments toward greatness." ?*Astronomy Magazine*

"Ms. Sobel is an elegant stylist, a riveting and efficient storyteller, a writer who can bring the dustiest of subjects to full-blooded life--poignant, in the case of Galileo; cautious but also loving, loyal and feisty in the case of Copernicus." ?*The New York Times, on A MORE PERFECT HEAVEN*

"Dava Sobel describes [Copernicus's] life and his legacy in her enjoyable 'A More Perfect Heaven' . . . [A] delightful immersion into tumultuous times." ?*The Washington Post, on A MORE PERFECT HEAVEN*

"The new work by science writer Dava Sobel, author of *Longitude* (1995) and *Galileo's Daughter* (2000) is half-narrative, half-drama--and it's all enthralling, all illuminating. As in her previous bestselling books, Sobel . . . turns the history of science into a great story filled with fascinating characters, excruciating near-misses and the sudden splendor of the new discovery . . . Her two-act play 'And the Sun Stood Still' is included in *A More Perfect Heaven*, and it puts flesh on the long-dissolved bones of these historical figures . . . Sobel, who was writer-in-residence at the U. of C. in 2006, writes with a calm authority and a deep knowledge that never tip into condescension to the lay reader. The haunting final paragraph of this beautiful book, combining science and a sort of poetic awe, is emblematic of her work as a whole." ?Julia Keller, *The Chicago Tribune, on A MORE PERFECT HEAVEN*

About the Author

Dava Sobel is the bestselling author of *Longitude*, *Galileo's Daughter*, and *A More Perfect Heaven*. She is co-author of *The Illustrated Longitude* and editor of *Letters to Father*. She received grants from the Sloan Foundation and the Guggenheim Foundation in support of *And the Sun Stood Still*. She lives in East Hampton, New York.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

John Sanchez:

This *And the Sun Stood Still* are reliable for you who want to be considered a successful person, why. The reason why of this *And the Sun Stood Still* can be on the list of great books you must have is usually giving you more than just simple looking at food but feed you with information that probably will shock your preceding knowledge. This book is handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions at e-book and printed versions. Beside that this *And the Sun Stood Still* giving you an enormous of experience for example rich vocabulary, giving you trial run of critical thinking that could it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

Francis King:

In this age globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make professionals understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended to you personally is And the Sun Stood Still this publication consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. That book was represented how can the world has grown up. The language styles that writer value to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some investigation when he makes this book. This is why this book appropriate all of you.

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