



NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe

By Terence Dickinson



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NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe By Terence Dickinson

With 250,000 copies in print since its initial publication in 1983, **NightWatch** has become a standard reference guide for stargazers throughout North America.

The new Third Edition expands on that success with a completely revised and updated text, more than 100 new color photos and diagrams and 16 additional pages that cover such! new astronomical pursuits as computerized telescopes, reviews of new telescope designs and accessories, and astronomy on the Internet.

All charts, tables and diagrams have been updated and, in some cases, redesigned for easier use. Improved spacecraft measurements of the distances to the stars (recently released by the European Space Agency) are included in the charts, along with additional observing tips for stargazers using binoculars and telescopes. An expanded chapter on Astrophotography lists the best modern films and cameras for skyshooting.

The new **NightWatch** is faithful to the "ultra-simplified, no jargon" philosophy of the original, and at the same time, offers substantially more practical information for the novice and intermediate-level amateur astronomer. The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada called the first edition "the best of its kind"- the new Third Edition is better still. It is still an abundantly illustrated, wide-sized volume designed for easy reference during many starlit nights.



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The third edition of *Nightwatch* continues its tradition of being the best handbook for the beginning astronomer. Terence Dickinson covers *all* the problems beginners face, starting with the fact that the night sky does not look the way a modern city-dweller expects. He discusses light pollution, how to choose binoculars and telescopes, how to pronounce the names of stars and constellations, telescope mounts, averted vision, and why the harvest moon looks especially bright. Most of the lovely photographs in the book were taken by amateurs, which gives the section on astrophotography a particularly inspirational gleam.

Dickinson's star charts are very handy, each covering a reasonable field of view and mapping the most interesting amateur objects. He gives good advice for planet watching, which he notes "is one of the few astronomical activities that can be conducted almost as well from the city as from dark rural locations."

Altogether, the watchword for *Nightwatch* is indeed "practical"--this is a book to be used, not just read. Spiral-bound to lie flat or to fold back undamaged, it's a field guide that pulls its own weight in the field. Author Timothy Ferris says, "Like a good night sky, *Nightwatch* is clear and wind-free. Try it and see for yourself." --*Mary Ellen Curtin*

From School Library Journal

Grade 6 Up?This long-overdue update of a classic handbook for amateur astronomers combines a text both meaty and hard to put down with a great array of charts, boxes, tables, and dazzling full-color photos of the sky. Aiming this offering at new but serious hobbyists, Dickinson guides readers on a tour of the universe visible from any dark backyard, providing frank evaluations of many telescope models; specific advice for photographers; and a simple system for locating stars, constellations, nebulae, and other intriguing sights. Convenient charts track upcoming eclipses and the locations of the five planets visible to the naked eye (both through the year 2010). The author closes with lists of supplementary resources, including books, software, Web sites, and conventions. Dickinson's contagious enthusiasm and vast expertise earn this a place in reference and circulating collections of any size. ?John Peters, New York Public Library
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From Library Journal

Van Holt, who teaches stargazing courses at the University of Kansas, explains how anyone living between southern Canada and northern Mexico (basically between latitudes 30 and 50 degrees) can learn to identify star formations and constellations without using complicated charts and equipment. Incorporating outdoor survival techniques with science, legends, and the myths surrounding the constellations, he teaches readers how to tell the difference between planets, comets, satellites, and stars and how to use star patterns to determine time and direction. By combining humor with fact, he has created an entertaining illustrated guide to the nighttime skies. Recommended for larger public libraries. For beginning skywatchers and amateur astronomers who want more substance, Dickinson's *Nightwatch*?the standard guide since its 1983 publication?is the book to read. Newly revised and updated, this edition claims to allow for use through the year 2010. Dickinson, an award-winning science writer specializing in astronomy, explains how to find constellations, differentiate galaxies, and identify the location of stars according to seasons. He also discusses equipment, including what criteria to use for selecting a telescope, and includes information about astronomy on the Internet, computerized telescopes, astrophotography, and tips for stargazers using binoculars. With a completely updated and revised text and more than 100 new diagrams and color

photographs, Dickinson ensures that his guide will retain its position as a classic. Essential for all public and college library astronomy collections. ?Gloria Maxwell, Kansas City P.L.
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Steven Whitney:

Book is to be different for every single grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important for people. The book NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe ended up being making you to know about other know-how and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The book NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe is not only giving you considerably more new information but also to be your friend when you sense bored. You can spend your personal spend time to read your guide. Try to make relationship using the book NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe. You never feel lose out for everything in case you read some books.

Gary Gonzales:

This NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe book is just not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is information inside this e-book incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This specific NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe without we know teach the one who studying it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't always be worry NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe can bring once you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even cell phone. This NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe having great arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Mary Norman:

The book untitled NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe is the e-book that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the e-book content that will be shown to you. The language that author use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The article writer was did a lot of investigation when write the book, therefore the information that they share to your account is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe from the publisher to make you far more enjoy free time.

Kerstin Torres:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already

been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love NightWatch: A Practical Guide to Viewing the Universe, you may enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout men. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

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