

Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes (Scientists in the Field Series)

By Ellen Jackson



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The universe is rapidly expanding. Of that much scientists are certain. But how fast? And with what implications regarding the fate of the universe? Ellen Jackson and Nic Bishop follow Dr. Alex Fillippenko and his High-Z Supernova Search Team to Mauna Kea volcano in Hawaii, where they will study space phenomena and look for supernovae, dying stars that explode with the power of billions of hydrogen bombs. Dr. Fillippenko looks for black holes-areas in space with such a strong gravitational pull that no matter or energy can escape from them--with his robotic telescope. And they study the effects of dark energy, the mysterious force that scientists believe is pushing the universe apart, causing its constant and accelerating expansion.



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5–7—This entry in an exemplary series follows prominent astronomer Alex Filippenko and associates from the Keck Observatory in Hawaii to the Lick Observatory in California on a hunt for supernovae and related large-scale astronomical phenomena. Though portraying astronomers in action isn't easy-mostly they sit and stare at screens— the charismatic Filippenko does his best, pouring sand through his fingers to hint at the numbers of stars in one of Bishop's bright color photos and dressing up as a Black Hole in another. Along with depicting the scientists, the images also include massive telescopes and photos or digital simulations of galaxies, exploding stars, and other astronomical phenomena. Gray mottled backgrounds give the blocks of text a smudged look, but that won't diminish the sense of adventure that readers will feel as they join a team of researchers on science's biggest frontier. Multimedia resource lists are appended.—*John Peters, New York Public Library*

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From **Booklist**

A potentially crushing moment for aspiring astronomers might be when they learn that, in reality, most of these scientists' time is spent looking at a computer screen. Although this entry in the consistently top-notch Scientists in the Field series remains honest about less-than-glamorous aspects of the featured career, its enthusiastic approach will bring even disillusioned stargazers right back into the fold. Focusing on astronomer Alex Filippenko and his work at some of the world's most sophisticated astronomical facilities, the book illustrates his contagious excitement about his field. It also focuses on viscerally fascinating celestial subjects: supernovae, dark energy, and black holes. These are fairly complex matters, but Jackson's treatment makes them accessible through reasoned explanations and comparisons, helpful diagrams, and, of course, dazzling photographs of the universe's most awesome spectacles. Splitting its attention evenly between the scientist and his field, this handsomely designed volume displays the joys of being fascinated by one's work in a way that will encourage students to seek similar professional satisfaction for themselves. Grades 5-8. --Ian Chipman

Review

"[This] handsomely designed volume displays the joys of being fascinated by one's work." 6/1-615/2008 Booklist, ALA

"Thoughtful design adds to the pleasure of this splendid invitation to explore darker corners of the universe." 5/1/08 Kirkus Reviews, Starred

"[A] sense of adventure that readers will feel as they join a team of researchers on science's biggest frontier." School Library Journal

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gina Hill:

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and the resources inside it can be true or not demand people to be aware of each info they get. How people have to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information specially this Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes (Scientists in the Field Series) book because book offers you rich info and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it everbody knows.

Karen Johnson:

Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes (Scientists in the Field Series) can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to put every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes (Scientists in the Field Series) nevertheless doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can easily drawn you into brandnew stage of crucial thinking.

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