



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 Filippenko 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. Filippenko 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:

Rodney Richardson:

Do you among people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys this

particular aren't like that. This Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes (Scientists in the Field Series) book is readable by simply you who hate those perfect word style. You will find the information here are arrange for enjoyable examining experience without leaving also decrease the knowledge that want to supply to you. The writer regarding Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes (Scientists in the Field Series) content conveys objective easily to understand by most people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different available as it. So , do you even now thinking Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes (Scientists in the Field Series) is not loveable to be your top checklist reading book?

Mamie Perkins:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition details. Even you love Mysterious Universe: Supernovae, Dark Energy, and Black Holes (Scientists in the Field Series), you could enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout men. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Jonathan Sanders:

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