

**THE ESSENCE OF
ASTRONOMY: THINGS EVERY
ONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT
THE SUN, MOON AND STARS**

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The Essence of Astronomy: Things Every One Should Know about the Sun, Moon and Stars by
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THE PLEIADES

*A long exposure photograph showing the wonderful nebulosity enveloping this whole group
Viewed with the eye these stars here shown drowned in foggy light shine clear and brilliant
From a photograph taken at the Yerkes Observatory*

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The Essence of Astronomy

Things Every One Should Know about
the Sun, Moon, and Stars

By

Edward W. Price

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to
MY "ASTRONOMICAL WIDOW"

There has been added—what the compiler has never happened to see before—a tabulated chronology of the main events in the history of Astronomy, and also a chapter very briefly describing the various instruments now used in the great observatories.

In the bibliography at the end of the volume, are listed the titles of all the books used for reference in checking the descriptions, figures, and statements given. To the authors of all of these books, the writer is much indebted. Following each title is a short note, endeavoring to present an idea of the scope of that volume. If, upon reaching this bibliography, the reader is enough interested in the greatest and most ancient of sciences to turn to some of these real books upon the subject, the main purpose of these pages will have been accomplished.

It will be noticed that the greater part of the volume is devoted to the Solar System, and that to the Universe as a whole is given but scant space. It is about the Solar System that the astronomical *facts* swarm thickest, while, though a marvelous amount is really known about the vast stellar hordes, it is often difficult to sepa-

rate fact from logical surmise. The more essential of the stellar facts, and many of the generally accepted and most logical of those theories which should interest the general reader, are, however, given.

The grouping, or apparent grouping, of the stars into constellations has not been touched upon. It is not possible to give in short space enough description of them to make their positions clear. The bibliography refers to several works admirably written for just that purpose.

Nor has it been possible to find room for any of the great discussions concerning the beginnings of the Solar System. In passing, however, it may be said here that several theories, and attractively logical ones, have been advanced in the past few years since the rejection by most astronomers of the Nebular Hypothesis as conceived by Laplace.

E. W. P.

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