



## The Boy and the Blue Moon

*Sara O'Leary , Ashley Crowley (Illustrator)*

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On the night of a blue moon, a boy and his cat set out for a walk and find themselves on a magical adventure. Together they travel through fields of flowers, forests of towering trees, and lakes of deep dark blue. Flying through starry blue skies, they reach the blue moon. But the blue planet, Earth, calls the explorers home. Safely back in bed, the boy wonders?was it only a dream?

## **The Boy and the Blue Moon Details**

Date : Published February 13th 2018 by Henry Holt

ISBN :

Author : Sara O'Leary , Ashley Crowley (Illustrator)

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Cats, Space, Adventure, Fantasy



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## **From Reader Review The Boy and the Blue Moon for online ebook**

### **Cindy Mitchell \*Kiss the Book\* says**

O'Leary, Sara The Boy and the Blue Moon. PICTURE BOOK. Godwin Books (Henry Holt) (Macmillan), 2018. \$18. 9781627797740

A boy and his cat go outside during a winters blue moon. They hear magical music, find a new lake, and even travel to the moon. Filled with blue and white illustrations.

This was an odd book that I probably wouldn't add to my library. This feels like a dream the author had, sort of personal and mystical. I think that most younger students who dream of traveling in space would find this incredibly boring.

EL(K-3)– NO. Stephanie, Elementary School Librarian & Author  
<https://kissthebook.blogspot.com/2018...>

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### **Amber Webb says**

The Boy and the Blue Moon by Sara O'Leary was a story of many children's dreams. On the night of a great blue moon a boy and his cat go on an adventure and end up on the moon. Wishes that come true aren't always what you expected and before long, they are wishing to come home. The illustrations of Blue Moon are spectacular and really allow you to feel the story on a different level. This would be an excellent book to share when classrooms are learning about dreams, the solar system or the phases and types of moons. There are many activities that could go along with this book and I can't wait to share it with my students.

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### **Shana says**

A very sweet story. Perfect for bedtime!

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### **Calista says**

There's no place like home. This book feels like a dream. I enjoyed this blue and moody book. It's set up as this magical night. I enjoyed and was delighted by the book.

The nephew had fun reading this also. He likes cats and he wanted to take his own trip to the moon. I told him he had to wait for a blue moon. He asked me when one was and I said it would be a while, but in your dreams, there is always a blue moon. He gave it 5 stars too.

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## **Edward Sullivan says**

An appealing magical adventure story with lovely, dreamy illustrations.

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## **Christina Carter says**

The night air breathed a wondrous sound as "A hundred thousand tiny bells were ringing out a song that no one had ever heard before," beckoning a boy and his cat as they venture off into the forest on one irresistibly enchanting evening.

The Boy and the Blue Moon takes the reader on a magnificent journey with a curious boy and his cat that is completely magical. I was in every way enamored by the brilliant blues used by illustrator Ashley Crowley. The illustrations are themselves spellbinding. They dazzled my imagination. This is definitely a book I will be purchasing for my K-5 library!

The Boy and the Blue Moon  
Sara O'Leary

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## **Barbara says**

Although blue moons aren't as rare as one might be led to believe, they are somewhat unusual, and when they occur, there is a feeling of something special and all sorts of possibilities swirling in the air. In this picture book, the moon and many of the scenes are actually awash in blue as the illustrator has added blue inks to the images with a water brush pen as well as gouache, graphite sticks, pastels, colored pencils, and Adobe Photoshop, thus creating distinctive images that have a magical aura about them. In the story a boy and his cat leave the safety of their house to walk under the glow of the blue moon, and as they head further away, things that are familiar take on a slightly mysterious and possibly dangerous tone. The two friends row across a lake and travel to the moon, but even though they enjoy their adventures and are tempted to stay there, they decide to return home once again. The last illustration features the boy and his cat back in his bedroom, surrounded by evidence of his fascination with space. There are models hanging from the ceiling, posters, a telescope, and a globe, and it seems clear what his life's ambition is.

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## **The Library Lady says**

Lovely book with a real retro feel, though readers will see pictures of space related stuff in the last spread that clearly shows it's a modern book. Though the moon doesn't REALLY turn blue (and blue moons aren't really rare), I can happily suspend my disbelief to enjoy Crowley's marvelous art that uses virtually nothing but blue and white, with just the boy's red long johns as brief splash of color.

*And I don't know if this is eligible for Caldecott consideration, but I'll bet that if it is the committee will ignore it. It's really that good.*

A sweet, dreamy story, with a text that feels like the best of classic children's picture books, this will be an excellent preschool and up bedtime book, complete with boy and cat snuggled safely in bed at home after

their adventures.

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### **Angelina says**

Magical!

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### **Cecilia says**

I wanted to like this book. Mostly, it was just weird. It definitely read like it was based on a dream (and the character clearly is dreaming himself). It just was...unsettling in some odd way?

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### **Jana says**

Because a blue moon is so special, it inspires a lot of imaginative stories. Anything can happen when there's a blue moon in the sky. With beautiful illustrations rendered in blue ink, the author takes us on an evening stroll with a young boy and his cat. As the two walk together through the woods they find a lake, another blue moon in the lake, and before too long they're on the moon itself. The boy is thrilled for this amazing adventure, but he starts to miss home. When he finds himself safe and warm in his own bed, one would have to wonder whether or not it really happened. This would make a terrific bedtime story for young readers with big imaginations. This could also serve as a fun mentor text to help young writers imagine their own Blue Moon stories.

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### **Ris says**

The illustrations by Ashley Crowley really carried this book for me. Picture book illustrators are unsung heroes. Her art was simply breathtaking and enchanting, and I was paying much more attention to the individual details in her images than I was to the story itself.

The story was cute, but overall unimaginative. Blue moons aren't exceedingly rare, but they're uncommon enough to be inspiring, to make one feel as though something *amazing* is going to happen that night. I expected a more fantastic sort of story, given its promising beginning (although there was one point where I was beginning to count how many times the word "deep" was used). The song, the "wish-wish", the magical lake and the shifting dream path.

And then we skipped rocks on the moon and tumbled around with kitty (a good time, perhaps, but not magical) and nose dived for home.

It's a cute book. I'd read it with my niece if she asked for a bedtime story. But honestly, just pick it up for the illustrations. *That's* where you'll find the magic.

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## Margie says

By one definition a blue moon is a second full moon in a single calendar month. February 2018 was a month without a full moon, giving us this March with a second full moon. On March 31, 2018 a full moon, a blue moon, will light the sky. It is the second one we've had this year. It is the last time we will have two blue moons of this type (January and March) until the year 2037.

With this event occurring only every nineteen years, folklore contains references to superstitions and beliefs attached to blue moons. Regardless of scientific evidence, educators and parents of children and pets know these individuals are affected by a full moon. When there are two in a single calendar month, the unexpected is to be expected. *The Boy And The Blue Moon* (Godwin Books, Henry Holt and Company, February 13, 2018) written by Sara O'Leary with illustrations by Ashley Crowley follows two companions taking an enchanting nighttime journey.

My full recommendation: [http://librariansquest.blogspot.com/2...](http://librariansquest.blogspot.com/2018/02/the-boy-and-the-blue-moon.html)

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## Ben Truong says

*The Boy and the Blue Moon* is a children's picture book written by Sara O'Leary and illustrated by Ashley Crowley, which tells a story about a boy, his cat, and the magic of the Blue Moon.

O'Leary's text is simplistic and straightforward, yet captures the surreal and dreamlike quality of the book. Crowley's illustrations are beautifully rendered and done in blue-scale (done in shades of blue), which is rather apropos to the text in question and complement the text rather well. The shocks of red in the life vests and astronaut suits were also rather welcomed.

The premise of the book is about a child and his cat taking a walk on a night of a Blue Moon and finds themselves on a magical adventure. Together they travel through fields of flowers, forests of towering trees, and lakes of deep dark blue. They then find themselves flying through starry blue skies until they reach the blue moon. Until the blue Earth called them back and he wakes up in his room, which is filled with astronomy paraphernalia.

All in all, *The Boy and the Blue Moon* is a wonderful children's book of a little boy, his cat and the magical properties that the Blue Moon can bring.

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## Michelle (FabBookReviews) says

3.5 stars

*"The cat and his boy walked through the bluebells toward the forest. A hundred thousand tiny bells were ringing out a song that no one had ever heard before."*

Picture book enthusiasts might recognize Sara O'Leary's name immediately- she is the Canadian author

behind the brilliant children's titles *This Is Sadie* , *When I Was Small* (illustrated by Julie Morstad), and *A Family Is a Family Is a Family* (illustrated by Qin Leng). O'Leary has teamed up with English artist Ashley Crowley for a lovely, lulling story about a young boy's (and his cat's!) nighttime adventures during a rare blue moon. As ever, O'Leary's writing is so beautiful: softly, gorgeously poetic and something to be savoured by both children and adults. Readers who have dreamed or wondered about the moon might enjoy following along the journey the boy and his cat take as they somehow find themselves on an incredible yet desolate new place far, far away from the coziness of home. O'Leary has often teamed up with artist (and fellow Canadian) Julie Morstad for her picture books, so having another illustrator collaborate with O'Leary is interesting to experience. Crowley's illustrations match the tone and subject matter of the story well- the cat, boy and earth-set scenes are so saturated and rich- though I do wonder if an audience might find the colour palette itself a tad unvarying or the space-set scenes towards the end lacking some kind of necessary warmth to fully gel with O'Leary's writing. Overall, I do recommend taking a read of this title; it is indeed a beautiful story, and one likely to be much appreciated at bedtime!

*I received a copy of this title courtesy of Raincoast Books in exchange for honest reviews. All opinions and comments are my own.*

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