



## Sweet Dreams

*Rose A. Lewis , Jen Corace (Illustrations)*

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In this sweet rhyming picture book, a mother prepares her daughter for bed by telling her about the different animals that live nearby and their nighttime activities. The mother's narrative comes full circle from night to dawn, and the little girl is lulled to sleep dreaming about her animal friends.

Lyrical writing and warm illustrations from the bestselling author-illustrator team of Rose A. Lewis and Jen Corace make this a perfect bedtime book.

## **Praise for Sweet Dreams**

“A pretty...bedtime story.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

“As a lullaby should, this book has soothing language and illustrations in comforting colors. The rhymes are sweet and satisfying when read aloud. This is a lovely book that any parent or grandparent would enjoy sharing.”

—*School Library Journal*

“Sweet Dreams captures the essence of the genre. The writing is light and benevolent, the drawings both familiar and fresh.”

—*Wall Street Journal*

“The text forms the scaffolding for Corace’s elegant spreads, in which distinctively stylized, sharp-cornered figures are muted by a twilight palette.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## Sweet Dreams Details

Date : Published March 1st 2012 by Harry N. Abrams

ISBN : 9781419701894

Author : Rose A. Lewis , Jen Corace (Illustrations)

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## From Reader Review Sweet Dreams for online ebook

### **Barbara says**

In rhyming text, a mother puts her child to bed with a reminder of all the adventures she'll have while she dreams. While Mr. Moon watches over her sleep and Miss Sunshine waits in the wings for the morning, all kinds of animals are settling down too. But the mother reminds her offspring that the nocturnal ones are just starting their days as others' days are finished. The illustration of the three owlets nestled among the twigs and waiting for their mother to return with food is particularly appealing. The pen and ink and watercolor illustrations are memorable with each page providing another visual treat. This is a wonderful bedtime story filled with love and suffused with a tangible sense of security.

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### **Kate Hastings says**

Toddler and Pre-K. Caldecott alert. This book is beautifully illustrated. The theme/story is not particularly original. Another lullaby/nighttime book. The artwork is what makes this book outstanding.

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### **Alison T. Johnson says**

As a mother readies her child for bed she wishes her sweet dreams of adventure. Mr. Moon watches through the night as the moonflowers awaken to tell their stories. Various animals of the dark appear as their mini stories get told through the night. As dawn arrives and the red roses are, "shaking off the morning dew," Miss Sunshine shares the tales of diurnal wildlife that accompany her throughout the day. A lovely tuck you in story with beautiful illustrations.

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### **Margaret Chind says**

When told this book would lull my reluctant sleeper I had to see. While she is still reluctant this is a lyrical book full of vivid illustrations and new friends (we even named the "Owl Babies" - Sarah, Percy & Bill).

\*Thanks to Abrams for providing a copy for review.\*

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### **Tasha says**

This quiet bedtime book is the perfect antidote to a busy day. Starting with a mother carrying her daughter up the stairs, the mood is set for a sleepy bedtime. The book moves from that child to the moon and then a sleeping baby bear, a soaking wet tiny mouse, and birds in a nest. Butterflies sleep as moths take wing into the night. Crickets start to sing and other nocturnal animals appear. Then the sun returns and a quiet morning begins with animals starting to rise and eat. The book returns to the bedroom and the child now curled in

bed, her walls opening to reveal the wonder of night beyond.

Read the rest of my review on my blog, Waking Brain Cells.

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### **Leslie says**

Sweet Dreams is pretty, the soothing colors and striking lines in pen, ink and watercolor, most so deep and rich. Ideal for its lulling bedtime rhymes, the illustrations lack anything that would stimulate wakefulness. Any movement is quiet and low energy, pages are not full of distracting objects to activate the mind toward any activity other than a sleep composed of the sweet dreams Rose Lewis is requesting of the young child. The pages are too pretty to be boring, but there is a noticeable stillness and focus. Illustrator Jen Corace draws the text no more. And the only thing “magical” is the softening edge on the depiction of nature at night. There is something of older and uncomplicated a time to the feeling the illustration; reminiscent of 1930s-40s children’s illustration (?).

The rhymes ask the child to “dream long and sweet,” all will be well. The moon is out to watch over things, and other creatures are readying for bed. And even those who are awake are meant to be awake, waiting for their own bedtime hour with the sun. Imagine not only the creatures bedding down after a busy day, but the (non-scary) night creatures and the lovely anticipation of morning. The story suggests the child should sleep long and deep, without a worry of waking with the sun—a time reserved for the early morning creatures to ready the day; which is a great (non-subtle) encouragement for those children who (like Natalya used to do) wake with the sunrise.

I liked the green footie pajamas the girl-child wears to bed, rendering her gender neutral and also a part of nature, as she is tucked amidst her animal stuffies and thoughts of the natural world. I thought the rhymes were lovely, even though it seemed an odd turn to talk about the night creatures rousing to start their “day”...Natalya would have likely suggested she was among these kinds of creatures instead. And then the brief departure of being just another part of nature to having nature created/prepared for you in the following day (“You see, they’re all quite busy/Making a new day just for you.”). What a nice incentive to stay in bed, I suppose, but the Eco-Critic I had to be for a very intense term woke. Friends and adventures set in the very real natural world—however magical it can appear—await their counterpart and—what? Few will find this objectionable, but rather, natural. I found it interesting—obviously.

Sweet Dreams winds back down into the dimming of the bedtime hour, where it begins: with a blessing of a good night; “Good night, my precious child, /May your dreams be long and sweet—/And full of great adventures/With the friends you’re soon to meet.” The child is nestled asleep in her bed among stuffed and real creatures alike, with the moon and the owl at watch, the bed transported in part to the field of moonflowers (similar to the cover).

Sweet Dreams is a solid sort of bedtime picture book find, with precious sentiment and pretty tones, in both text and illustration, to lull the listener.

L (omphaloskepsis)

<http://contemplatrix.wordpress.com/20...>

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## **Yoo Kyung Sung says**

Relaxing night time lullaby.

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## **Joolissa says**

The illustrations in this book are 5 star, among my top favorites. I must find more books by this illustrator! Unfortunately I'm not nearly so enthusiastic about the text. The poem about going to sleep, nighttime, and new days is thematically nice, but the execution of the rhyme and meter is quite clumsy on the majority of pages and throws me completely out of the reading. I am perhaps extra picky about this because of writing my own poetry in rhyme and meter, and you may find it less bothersome. In the end I'm keeping the book just to gaze upon the sweet and gorgeously colored illustrations.

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## **Melissa says**

ADORABLE illustrations, and lines that scan even if the text itself is a little thin, and some of the poetic stuff makes my pragmatic self a little cranky. "The roses ... are all quite busy / making a new day just for you." OH GEEZ NO THEY'RE NOT. I guess I am in a mood for less "fanciful" and more "imaginative" tonight.

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## **Amanda Carpenter says**

This book was cute. I bet children would enjoy it a little more than I did though.

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## **Misbah says**

A sweet bedtime story for children. The colors of the illustrations are also very soothing.

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## **Janet says**

Wonderful text and super illustrations many of which are done in deep blues and greens depicting the coming night. This is a reassuring bedtime story which begins and ends with the same four lines. The text is well rhymed, not forced; and gives information in an easy style. I especially liked the use of morning glories and moonflowers to show the difference in nighttime and daytime

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## **Rebecca says**

Well, this is just beautiful. Especially the color palette. I feel like this rhyming bedtime story would have been very comforting to me as a child -- both the words and the pictures. Sniff. Illustrator Jen Corace's web site is here: <http://jencorace.com/>

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### **Rainey says**

Corace's illustrations are magical and soft, but Lewis's words do not compliment them.

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### **Danielle Simmons says**

A child falls to sleep and dreams of all the wonderful animals that come out at night and the moon lighting their path. The beautiful illustrations give this book life and character as the child's dream comes to life for students and readers.

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