

LORGNETTE



Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

Author

Benham-Yazdani, Ashley

Illustrator

Illustrated by the author

Reviewer

Barrington, Susannah

Pages

Unpaged

Price

\$18.99

ISBN

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Classification

Nonfiction (523.64)

Grade Level

2-5

Book Review: COSMIC WONDER: HALLEY'S COMET AND HUMANKIND

In *COSMIC WONDER*, Ashley Benham-Yazdani describes the development of humankind through the millennia, as witnessed by Halley's Comet on its 76-year journey through the cosmos. Snapshot illustrations of human civilization around the world, labeled with the appropriate year, juxtaposed with the continuous stream of the comet provide a sense of unity and perspective over the centuries. The author concludes the book by wondering what civilization will be like when Halley's Comet next visits Earth in the year 2061 and how the reader will have impacted the world. Included at the end of the book is a series of informative paragraphs about each time period described in the narrative, an author's note, and a short bibliography.

The easy prose, sprinkled with some words like "ochre" that may inspire a reader to break out the dictionary, paired with colorful illustrations and interesting historical and scientific facts will draw in readers of all types and interests. This book is recommended for school and public libraries and for use in programs or lessons about astronomy and history.

