**Astronomy 101: Books to get started in stargazing**

Compiled by Matt Wedel, PVAA

1. ***Nightwatch*** by Terrence Dickinson. This is pretty widely regarded as the best book for anyone looking to get into stargazing. There are 10 copies in the LA system.

ISBN 9781554071470

2. ***Turn Left at Orion*** by Guy Consolmagno and Dan Davis. The second-best book for people just starting out, and some people put it first. There are 4 copies in the LA system. ISBN 0521781906

3. ***Binocular Highlights*** by Gary Seronik. A terrific book of 99 bright objects in the sky for binoculars and small telescopes. One copy in the library system. ISBN 978-1931559430

4. ***The Sky & Telescope Pocket Sky Atlas***. Probably the best general-purpose star atlas. ISBN 978-1931559317 ***Not available in the library system.***

5. ***The Messier Objects*** by Stephen James O'Meara. A great book on the brightest and most popular deep-sky objects (things outside the solar system: nebulae, star clusters, and galaxies). There is one copy in the LA system. ISBN 0521553326

6. ***Astronomy Hacks*** by Robert and Barbara Thompson. One of the most useful books I've come across, and one of the few that I use on a regular basis. One copy available in the library system. ISBN 978-0596100605

7. ***The Backyard Astronomers Guide*** by Terrence Dickinson and Alan Dyer. The big brother of *Nightwatch*, with fewer star charts, but with a LOT more useful advice on types of telescopes and accessories and how to navigate the night sky. ISBN 9781554073443

8. ***A Child's Introduction to the Night Sky*** by Michael Driscoll and Meredith Hamilton. One of the most popular and best-reviewed books on stargazing for kids. ***Not available in the library system.*** ISBN 978-1579123666

9. ***The Urban Astronomer's Guide*** by Rod Mollise. A treasure trove of advice and information for people trying to observe the night sky through light pollution. ISBN 1846282160

10. ***Deep-Sky Wonders*** by Sue French. A terrific book, very approachable. People who are brand-new to stargazing could open this up at the telescope and find things. But it also has plenty of objects that will challenge even seasoned stargazers. Sue French is one of the best astronomy writers in the business.

ISBN 9781554077939