

Roaring Boring Alice - ★★★★★

A Roar in the Sky

Children's Fiction

Roaring Boring Alice

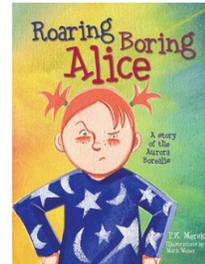
A Story of the Aurora Borealis

Patricia Merski, Mark Weber (Illustrator)

Skeezel Press

32 Pages

Oct 01, 2004



Alice is a hot spirited little girl and her outbursts are causing some incredible things to happen in the northern skies.

Everyone knows Alice is fussy, even the small mouse who narrates the tale of Alice's transformation. At the beginning of this story, Alice is seen as someone who is unfriendly and rude. "Fin-al-ly," the little narrator announces with relief, she receives some discipline for her unsatisfactory behavior. Just as Alice is about to react to her punishment with a "piercing shout," a visitor from another world appears and transforms her voice into streams of vibrant color. The visitor informs Alice that her voice will return only when she changes her behavior. When the story ends, we see a different Alice, although there are hints that she still has an occasional outburst. And that's why night sky watchers sometimes get treated to the beautiful sights of the Aurora Borealis.

Merski's artistic creativity and affection for color are evident throughout the story. The splashes of bright color along with the rhyme in the book will hold the attention of young readers. Weber's illustrations complement the story by capturing the emotion of the characters and expressing the mist of color of the Aurora Borealis. It could serve as a teaching aid if more factual information about the Aurora Borealis had been included. The ionospheric phenomenon is mentioned in the last line of the story and some details are provided.

Children will enjoy reading this story. The different emotional faces Weber paints for Alice and the mouse are humorous and will provoke laughter. The book is appropriate for storytelling and learning environments, and the story encourages playful emotion while reading it outloud.

-Haletha Judkins