

Foreword Review PICTURE BOOKS

Brother Sun, Sister Moon

Katherine Paterson Pamela Dalton, Illustrator Chronicle Books (May 2011) Hardcover \$17.99 (36pp) 978-0-8118-7734-3

A reimagining of Saint Francis of Assisi's "Canticle of the Creatures" (ca. 1200), this book couldn't be lovelier, in words or images. It focuses on being thankful for the harvest and encourages all creatures to live together in peace, praising the elements that allow us to survive and likening the air to God, in its invisibility and ability to sustain life. Robust and delicately articulated at the same time, it boasts an usually sophisticated color palette of black, amber, and green. The remarkable illustrations are achieved through scherenschnitte, or papercutting, which is then painted with watercolors in a technique used in nineteenth-century German Pennsylvania. Ages four to eight.

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