

# Reading Guide



**AGES**  
8 - 12

**GRADES**  
3 - 6

**:01**

First Second





# About STARGAZING



Moon is everything Christine isn't. She's confident, impulsive, artistic . . . and though they both grew up in the same Chinese-American suburb, Moon is somehow unlike anyone Christine has ever known. Can Christine be the friend Moon needs, now, when the sky is falling?

Jen Wang draws on her childhood to paint a deeply personal yet wholly relatable friendship story that's at turns joyful, heart-wrenching, and full of hope.



Jen Wang is a cartoonist, author and illustrator living in Los Angeles. She is the author of *The Prince and the Dressmaker*, *Koko Be Good*, and co-author of *The New York Times* bestselling graphic novel *In Real Life*, with Cory Doctorow. Her work has appeared in *Los Angeles Magazine*, *The Believer*, *Hazlitt*, *Slate*, and *McSweeney's*, and she has written for the *Adventure Time* and *Lumberjanes* comic series. Wang is the co-founder and organizer of the annual festival *Comics Arts Los Angeles*.

## Awards

<https://www.comicsappreciationproject.com/stargazing/>

- 2019 Best Books Graphic Novel Selection by the School Library Journal (SLJ)
- 2019 Best Middle-Grade Graphic Novels by Kirkus Reviews
- 2020 Notable Children's Book Selection for Middle Grades (3-5) by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)
- 2020 Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA) Award Winner for Children Literature
- 2020 Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) Choice Selection for Best Fiction for Children
- 2020 DÍA Booklist selection by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) for Grades 3-5
- 2020 Harvey Award Nominee for Best Children or Young Adult Book
- 2020 Junior Library Guild (JLG) Elementary Plus Selection
- 2020 SEE-IT Award Winner by the Elton B. Stephens CO (EBSCO) and the Children's Book Council (CBC) Graphic Novel Committee
- 2020 Great Graphic Novels for Teens – Fiction by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)



# Discussion Questions

<https://www.unleashingreaders.com/25397>

1. How would you react if you were Christine and learned that your new friend has a brain tumor?
2. Have you ever had a vegetarian dish, if so what was it?
3. What are some other ways Moon could handle Angela reading her pictures to everyone at the birthday party?
4. In the book, the characters participate in a talent show. If you were to participate in one, what would your talent be?
5. Why do you think Moon left during Chinese learning class, do you think she should've gone back to learn Chinese?
6. Do you believe it was right for Moon to attack Gabrielle for making fun of Vivian about her math puzzles.
7. Was Christine's father right for getting mad at Christine for painting her nails and not telling her parents about it?
8. Do you think that Moon was wrong in sharing her concert ticket with Madison after Christine said she didn't want to go?
9. If one of your friends were feeling sad and alone like Moon was after her surgery, how would you comfort them?

# Activities

<https://teachersbooksreaders.com/2020/08/18/stargazing-by-jen-wang/>

1. Write a get well soon card to Moon from Christine's point of view.
2. Write an apology note to Moon from Christine's point of view.
3. Write a note to Dad asking for permission to go to a concert or to wear nail polish.
4. Write a sequel to this story. After writing, draw the graphic novel panels and include dialogue.

# Interactive

Watch the official book trailer here:



Learn a group dance routine with KidzBop:



Read our book review here:

