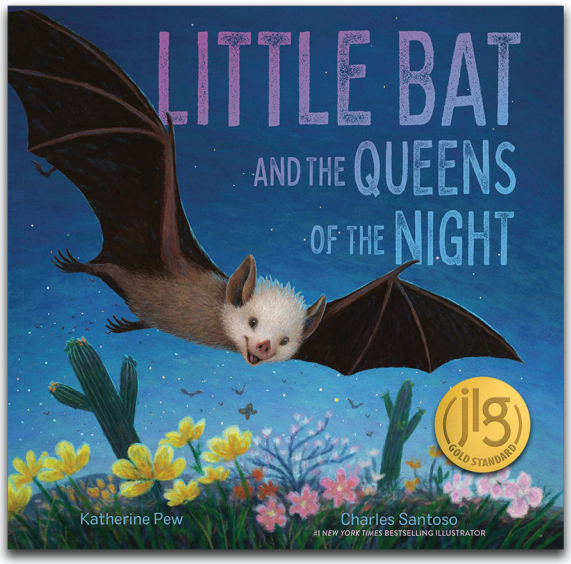
LITTLE BAT AND THE QUEENS OF THE NIGHT

Written by Katherine Pew • Illustrated by Charles Santoso

Published by Anne Schwartz Books/Random House Children's Books



In this awe-inspiring and science-filled picture book, with pictures by the New York Times bestselling illustrator of Odder, join a baby bat and her Mama as they visit the Queens of the Night: majestic flowers that bloom for only one night each year.

Little Bat has been waiting for this all year! For the first time, she is flying to meet the Queen in a grand garden!

Come along with Little Bat, her Mama, and their whole clan as they soar like shooting stars over darkened canyons, desert peaks, and parched riverbeds. But when they finally reach the garden, Little Bat is confused: she sees no Queen — only boring, spindly cacti. But then... buds begin to tremble...until they burst spectacularly into bloom, with flowers as bright as moonlight. These are the Queens of the Night, and they are awake!

All night, the bats feast, pollinating flowers... until the sun begins to rise, and the blooms begin to close, and it is time, once more, for Little Bat to fly home and sleep.

- Features luminous artwork from New York Times bestselling illustrator Charles Santoso.
- A lyrical celebration of the remarkable relationship between bats and night-blooming flowers.
- Warm mother-daughter relationship making this perfect for Mother's Day and family reading.
- Introduces pollination and desert ecosystems through an emotionally engaging story.
- Includes informative backmatter that extends the book's STEM and classroom value.

PERFECT FOR

- Families who love baby animal stories and nature-themed picture books.
- Educators seeking engaging STEM-focused read-alouds.
- Children fascinated by bats, flowers, and nighttime wildlife.
- Parents looking for gentle bedtime stories.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

Katherine Pew writes lyrical stories about nature, artists, wonder, family, and friendship. Just like Little Bat, she lives with her family in the Sonoran Desert in Arizona, where she loves hiking and watching wildlife. This is her debut picture book.

Charles Santoso has illustrated many celebrated children's books, including the #1 *New York Times* bestseller ***Odder*** by Katherine Applegate, as well as ***Ida, Always*** by Caron Levis. He moves around a lot, but calls Sydney, Australia, home.

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Grade: Preschool – 3

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