This bibliography lists the most useful and scientifically accurate astronomy books published in the 1980s for beginners and students. The books are categorized under the topics:

1. astronomy in general;
2. solar system as a whole;
3. planets;
4. asteroids, comets, and meteorites;
5. the sun;
6. stars and their evolution;
7. milky way galaxy;
8. galaxies and quasars;
9. origin and evolution of the universe;
10. invisible astronomy;
11. search for the life elsewhere;
12. telescopes and other instruments;
13. computers and astronomy;
14. history of astronomy;
15. manuals for sky observing;
16. astrophotography;
17. amateur astronomers;
18. reference books;
19. books for children;
20. magazines.

A brief summary of each book is provided. (YP)
The books below represent a personal selection of the most useful and scientifically accurate astronomy books for beginners and students published in the last decade. In narrowing the choices to a manageable list, many excellent books had to be omitted. Still, if you start with some of the books and authors listed here, you will have some of the world's most eloquent and skillful guides at your side to help you explore the universe.

### Books on Astronomy in General

- **Bartusiak, M. Thursday's Universe.** 1986, Times Books. Frontier areas of astronomy, as explained by a skilled science journalist.
- **Chaisson, E. Cosmic Dawn.** 1981, Berkley paperback. An eloquent primer on the evolution of the universe and our place in it. (A sequel, called The Life Era, was published by Atlantic Monthly Books in 1987.)
- **Ferris, T. Galaxies.** 1980, Stewart, Tabori & Chang. Lavishly illustrated introduction to the large-scale cosmos by a noted science writer.
- **Hartmann, W. & Miller, R. Cycles of Fire.** 1987, Workman. Over-sized paperback with gorgeous color illustrations, introducing the realms of the stars and galaxies.
- **Preiss, B. & Fraknoi, A., eds. The Universe.** 1987, Bantam. Collection of introductory articles by noted astronomers and science fiction stories inspired by good science.
- **Preston, R. First Light.** 1987, Atlantic Monthly Books. Elloquent introduction to modern astronomy through the life and work of a few of its finest practitioners.

### Books about Specific Planets

- **Davis, J. Flyby.** 1987, Atheneum. Mainly about Uranus, but with sections on Jupiter and Saturn.
- **Hockey, T. The Book of the Moon.** 1986, Prentice Hall.
- **Moore, P. The Planet Neptune.** 1988, Horwood/Wiley.
- **Washburn, M. Mars at Last.** 1977, Putnam's.
Books About Asteroids, Comets, and Meteorites


Books about the Sun

Frazier, K. *Our Turbulent Sun*. 1983, Prentice-Hall. A science writer reviews the modern picture of our local star.


Books about Stars and Their Evolution


Kaufmann, W. *Black Holes and Warped Spacetime*. 1979, Freeman paperbound. Best introduction to black holes and the theories behind them.


Moore, P. *Astronomers' Stars*. 1987, Norton. Profiles of individual stars whose understanding was crucial to the progress of astronomy.

Books about our Milky Way Galaxy


Books about Galaxies and Quasars


Wright, A. & H. *At the Edge of the Universe*. 1989, Horwood/Wiley. Searching for the most distant objects, especially quasars.

Books about the Origin and Evolution of the Universe


Ferris, T. *The Red Limit*, 2nd ed. 1983, Morrow/Quill paperbound. Good history of how large-scale properties of the universe were discovered.


Trefil, J. *The Moment of Creation*. 1983, Macmillan paperbound. Fine introduction to our modern understanding of the Big Bang. (See also his *The Dark Side of the Universe*, 1988, Scribner's.)

Books about Invisible Astronomy
Field, G. & Chaisson, E. The Invisible Universe. 1985, Birkhauser. About the many interesting phenomena revealed by modern instruments but not visible to the eye, and about plans for future telescopes.

Books about the Search for Life Elsewhere

Books about Telescopes and Other Instruments
Cornell, J. & Gorenstein, P. Astronomy from Space. 1983, MIT Press. Chapters by various astronomers on the results from and plans for exploring the universe with instruments in space.

Books on Computers and Astronomy
Burgess, E. Celestial Basic. 1982, Sybex.
Genet, R. & Hayes, D. Robotic Observatories. 1989, AutoScope Corp., P.O. Box 40488, Mesa, AZ 85274.
Lawrence, J. Basic Astronomy with a PC. 1989, Willmann-Bell.

Books on the History of Astronomy
Krupp, E. Echoes of the Ancient Skies. 1983, NAL paperbound. Introduction to the astronomy of earlier civilizations around the world.

Introductory Manuals for Sky Observing
Cherrington, E. Exploring the Moon Through Binoculars and Small Telescopes. 1984, Dover paperbound. Good guide to a variety of lunar observations.
Mayer, B. Starwatch. 1984, Putnam paperbound. An eccentric but clever guide on constructing star-finders from simple household materials.
Ridpath, I. & Tirion, W. Universe Guide to Stars and...
A Basic Astronomy Library

**Books on Astrophotography**


**Books for Serious Amateur Astronomers**


**Some Astronomy Reference Books**


**A Few Selected Books for Children**

Aplet, N. *Astronomy Projects for Young Scientists*. 1984, Arrow paperback. Good, simple astronomy activities for junior high level and up.


**Astronomy Magazines**

*Astronomy*, published by Kalmbach, Milwaukee.

*Griffith Observer*, published by the Griffith Observatory, Los Angeles.


*Startdate*, published by the McDonald Observatory, Austin.