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Popular Science : Popular Science in Astronomy

Barentine, John C.

# Uncharted Constellations

**Asterisms, Single-Source and Rebrands**

- Allows star gazers to discover and pick out 16 lost constellations from distant times in today's night sky
- Supplements the information in companion volume "The Lost Constellations" with even less well known discarded Western constellations of which a written record remains
- Extensively illustrated with figures drawn from classic works of celestial cartography from the 17th-19th centuries

This book compiles an array of interesting constellations that fell by the wayside before the IAU established the modern canon of constellations. That decision left out lesser known ones whose history is nevertheless interesting, but at last author John Barentine is giving them their due. This book is a companion to "The Lost Constellations", highlighting the more obscure configurations. The 16 constellations found in this volume fall into one or more of three broad categories: asterisms, such as the Big Dipper in Ursa Major; single-sourced constellations introduced on surviving charts by a cartographer perhaps carrying the favor of sponsors; and re-brands, new figures meant to displace existing constellations, often for an ideological reason. All of them reveal something unique about the development of humanity's map of the sky.

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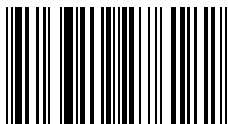
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