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Saints and Angels

AnnMarie Hamar

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Reviewer: AnnMarie Hamar
Reading Level: Primary
Rating: Outstanding
Genre: Nonfiction
Subject: Christian saints--Biography--Juvenile literature; Angels--Juvenile literature; Saints--Juvenile literature; Book--Reviews;

This simple, well-written book is a collection of profiles of 30 saints. What makes it different from similar books is that the author includes an introduction to angels. Each saint fits into one of six categories: the Holy Family, the Followers of Christ, Gospel Writers, Martyrs, Great Thinkers and Evangelists, and Peace and Healing. Some of the names like the Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist will be familiar to many readers. Others like St. Elizabeth of Hungary and St. Sebastian might not be as well-known. The biographies are brief and include the date of the saint's feast day and which groups count the saint as their patron (i.e. St. Christopher is the patron saint of travelers and sailors). The discussion of angels is centered on guardian angels, archangels, and fallen angels. The artwork is exquisite, featuring reproductions of paintings from the Louvre, the National Gallery in London, and Alte Pinokothek in Munich, Germany.