



2018

# The Night Box

Karen Abbott

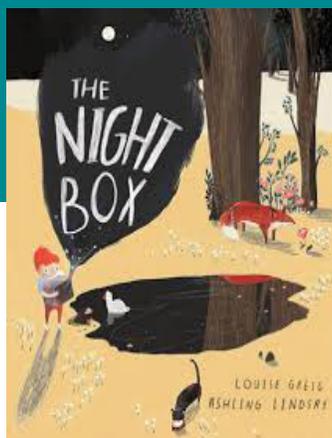
Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

---

### BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Abbott, Karen (2018) "The Night Box," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 39 : Iss. 10 , Article 11.  
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol39/iss10/11>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact [scholarsarchive@byu.edu](mailto:scholarsarchive@byu.edu), [ellen\\_amatangelo@byu.edu](mailto:ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu).



## Book Review

### The Night Box

#### Author

Louise Greig

#### Illustrator

Ashling Lindsay

#### Reviewer

Karen Abbott

#### Rating

Excellent

#### Level

Preschool, Primary

#### Pages

32

#### Year

2018

#### Publisher

Clarion Book

#### ISBN

9781328850935

Max notices that the day is tired. It has long shadows and is sinking low in the sky. Everything is slowing down and preparing to rest, even Max. After brushing his teeth, he climbs into bed and says good night to his busy mother. But when the door is closed, Max gets out of bed and opens a box that releases the night and absorbs the day! Max makes some lovely observations about the night. How big it is, how playful, how friendly, until at last when he is exhausted, he climbs into bed. Night itself becomes tired and crawls back into the box, thus setting daylight free again.

This is a lovely book that has been carefully written and illustrated. Both the illustrations and words are very emotive, creating a feeling of peace and harmony that settles the reader into a quiet state of mind. This book is particularly charming for children who are afraid of the dark. It personifies darkness into a fun-loving, protective entity that is beneficial for animals and humans alike. The only weakness, strangely enough, is the boy opening the box to release both day and night. Why does he have this power? What does the box represent? Is it a dream? Is it meant as fantasy? Everything about this book is exceptionally well executed, but personifying day and night and then locking them in a box in a child's room feels a bit awkward.