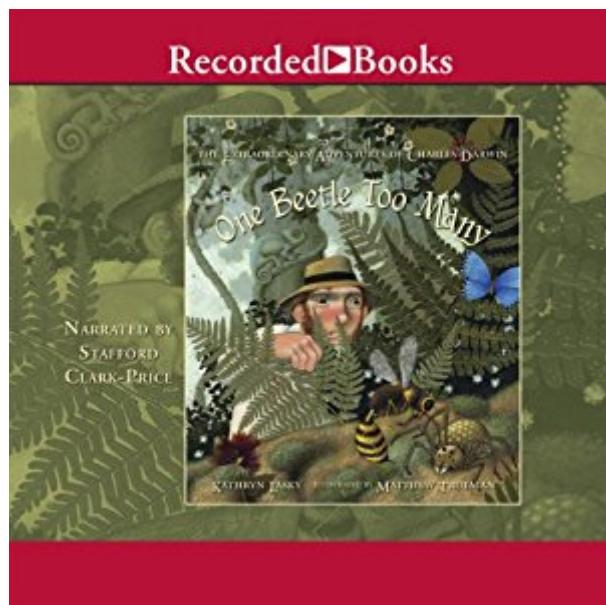


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One Beetle Too Many: The Extraordinary Adventures Of Charles Darwin



Synopsis

A lively exploration into the life of Charles Darwin, One Beetle Too Many recounts both Darwin's childhood and his time on the Beagle as a naturalist. This adventurous tale explores Darwin's discoveries in geology, paleontology, and animal anatomy that led to his famous theory of evolution.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Author Kathryn Lasky did extensive research before writing One Beetle Too Many: The Extraordinary Adventures of Charles Darwin. She read many books, audited evolutionary biology classes and even attended lab sessions to look at bones at Harvard University. What resulted from her impressive preparation is a factual account of Darwin's fascinating life, from childhood to his later years. Before getting into the meat of the story, I simply cannot go further without mentioning the captivating illustrations in this book. Artist Matthew Trueman used a most unusual assembly of mediums to achieve the uniquely spectacular illustrations you see here. These included layers of acrylic ink, watercolors, graphite pencils, gouache paints and colored pencils. He then brilliantly used collage elements like paper, string, flowers and leaves to really give the illustrations true depth. You've simply just got to see these illustrations for yourself to appreciate them. Now back to the story . . . Readers of One Beetle Too Many will not only learn about the focus of Charles Darwin's passion - nature - but also of his struggles. As a young boy in the early 1800s, Charles was a failing student, though his sister shined in school. His disappointed father urged him to join the clergy, but although Darwin spent many hours each day reading the Bible, his passion was with nature. After a friend invited him on a long voyage to South America to serve as the naturalist on board a ship

called The Beagle, Darwin had found his true calling. I like that this book mentions his early struggles so children can understand that not everyone who is smart and accomplished successfully mastered every aspect of his early life.

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