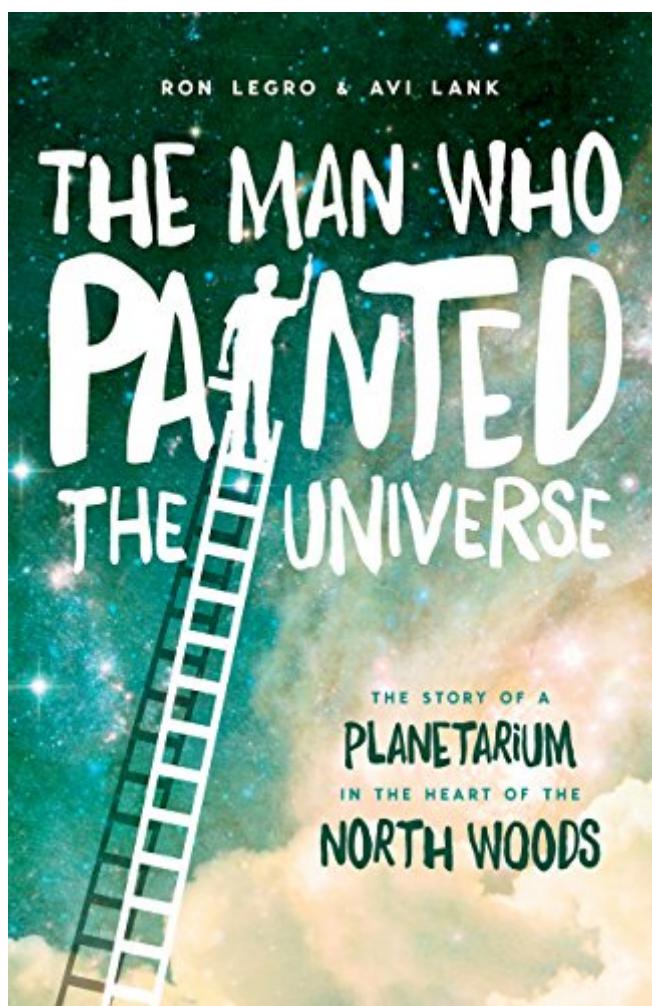


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# The Man Who Painted The Universe: The Story Of A Planetarium In The Heart Of The North Woods



## **Synopsis**

As a young boy Frank Kovac Jr. fell deeply in love with stargazing, painting glow-in-the-dark constellations on his bedroom wall and inviting friends to an observatory he built in his Chicago backyard. As he reached adulthood, Kovac did not let go of his childhood dreams of reaching the stars. He began scheming to bring the universe home. While working at a paper mill as a young man, Kovac tirelessly built a 22-foot rotating globe planetarium in the woods. Despite failures and collapses, the amateur astronomer singlehandedly built a North Woods treasure, painting more than 5,000 glowing stars—dot by dot in glowing paints. Today, Kovac and his unique planetarium take visitors to the stars every day. *The Man Who Painted the Universe: The Story of a Planetarium in the Heart of the North Woods* introduces readers to the mild-mannered astronomy enthusiast whose creativity, ingenuity, fervor, and endurance realized a dream of galactic proportions. The story of this stargazer from Wisconsin's North Woods so inspired two newspapermen, authors Ron Legro and Avi Lank, that they sought to document the story of the Kovac Planetarium for a new generation of stargazers and dreamers.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

"Endeavor to Persevere" is the term that comes to mind from this story about Frank Kovac's quest to see the stars and share his passion with others by selecting a remote area in Northern WI to accomplish this. The story also takes you on a brief tour of WI, some of its history, and what this tourism state has to offer while telling the story of one man's path to fulfilling a childhood dream. I read it in one evening. It is well written, and knowing one of the authors, I know that his idea for this book was also similar to Frank Kovac's. Frank wished to create a planetarium, the author's goal was to write about it. Both have succeeded. I was impressed with the great title and loved the dust cover presentation which I am told is exactly how the stars in this story came to be added. Proud of my brother and his talents over the many years we have grown together with roots still in that very same area as this story.

Interesting! Would like to visit.

This is an amazing story of a passionate stargazer who determined to share his enthusiasm and knowledge with others. The strength of Frank Kovac's will and tenacity to build a planetarium in the North woods of Wisconsin is hard for me to comprehend. It took him years to create this from scratch without any ready made plan, all paid out of his own pocket. He did something no one else has done and built a planetarium in the clear star-studded night skies of northern Wisconsin, away from the light pollution and the smog pollution of cities. This is an inspiring story of a nerdy entrepreneur who had the courage to think beyond the mundane and to follow his passion-the universe of stars and planets.

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