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Dawkins, Richard. The Magic of Reality

Famous evolutionary biologist Dawkins teams up with well-known illustrator Dave McKean to examine many of the most fundamental questions in science including why the seasons occur, whether life on other planets is possible, what are the building blocks of matter, and how evolution really works. Dawkins presents many of these ideas from a religious or mythological perspective first before delving into the real science. His writing is straightforward enough for most pre-teens or teens to grasp the concepts he's presenting, but not so simplistic that average adults will feel that Dawkins is talking down to them. McKean's illustrations, beautiful and complex as always, do a wonderful job of both explicating the concepts Dawkins is presenting and also demonstrating Dawkins' central theme: that scientific truth is beautiful and magical enough on its own without any need for mythical or supernatural trappings.

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