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# Sweetest Kulu



## Synopsis

A lyrical lullaby imbued with traditional Inuit beliefs, this bedtime poem written by internationally acclaimed Inuit throat singer Celina Kalluk describes the gifts bestowed upon a newborn baby by all the animals of the Arctic. Lyrically and lovingly written, this visually stunning book is infused with the Inuit values of love and respect for the land and its animal inhabitants. Named Best Bedtime Book of 2014 by the Huffington Post, a USBBY Outstanding International Book, and winner of the 2015 Wordcraft Circle Award. Now available in board book format.

## Book Information

Board book: 30 pages

Publisher: Inhabit Media; Brdbk edition (October 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 177227111X

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Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.8 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #194,738 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Canada #527 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Stories In Verse #539 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Poetry

## Customer Reviews

PreSâ "Just when you thought your library didn't need another picture book about parental love, Kalluk and Neonakis have created this far North fantasy that combines awe and coziness in equal measure. Nestled in a warm snowsuit, baby Kulu (an Inuktitut endearment) receives gifts from a parade of magnificent Arctic well-wishers, including Caribou, Snow Bunting, Narwhal, Land, Sun, and Wind. The poetic text reads like a blessing for a new child, pointing out the splendors of the natural world while also invoking character traits that parents wish to inculcate in their children, such as patience and generosity. The pictures mix the warmth and sweetness of mid-century illustrators such as Mary Blair with an animation-style eye for the dramatic: Neonakis zooms in close, as when Artic Hare's cuddly body fills a spread, and pans out wide to show rugged mountain peaks and tundra vegetation. The length and sophisticated vocabulary of the text may overwhelm the youngest listeners, but nonetheless the book's tender rhythms and endearing images immerse readers in an

experience of beauty and connection among living things." Sarah Stone, San Francisco Public Library

"Sweetest Kulu is a lovely bedtime book. Debut author (and lauded Inuit throat singer) Celina Kalluk employs a warm narrative voice to address the child directly, inviting young readers to "dream a little" along with Kulu. The newborn is portrayed as part of a marvelous, intricate web of relationships within the natural world, lazing in the soft grass or snuggling up to the arctic hare. Alexandria Neonakis's illustrations are gorgeous, sometimes depicting Kulu asleep, other times awake and interacting with the creatures that come to bestow their gifts. Even the largest animals, like Muskox and Caribou, are pictured cradling and protecting the baby, creating a sense of peace and safety. . . Young children will be captivated by the stunning beauty of this Arctic world embracing little Kulu, and by the sweet faces of the creatures that love the newborn." Quill & Quire "I really like this story and how it doesn't feature your traditional talking animal characters, primary colour pictures, or focus on kid-centred issues or problems. The colours feel organic to the text, and the message in the text, and add to the overall appeal of this book. Highly Recommended." CM Magazine

The graphic work in this book is quite beautiful, creative and touching. What I found most attractive though, as an adult, and a parent of a preschooler was the mutual respect and admiration from nature to a human being and viceversa, plus a simple and nice way to introduce native Alaskan culture (Inuk). Without it being poetry, I found it quite poetic. There is a constant encouragement of the child to know all the great things she/he can be. A beautiful gift as well.

amazing book...illustrated by my granddaughter...its wonderful!!!!!!

Instant hit with my two year old! He asks me to read "Kuku" to him everyday. Gorgeous illustrations; beautiful text. This is a wonderful children's book!

I bought this as a gift for 2 different families and they both told me that their little girls love this book. I think it is a very sweet book and perfect for babies and toddlers.

My daughter loves baby Kulu and the animals. The book has beautiful and subtly written lessons on the qualities many indigenous people want to pass onto our children.

Beautiful story. My kids love it and I can read it over and over. the illustrations are wonderful.

This is a beautiful multicultural book. My grandson loves it. He loves being read to.

Very cute book. We named our Husky Kulu

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