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Book Review

Eugene W. Field *Wynken, Blynken, and Nod*; illus. By Giselle Potter
32pp. Schwartz & Wade 2008 ISBN 978-0-375-84196-5 \$16.39 g
(Ages 3-7)

Adapting the classic bedtime story of Eugene W. Field illuminated by Potter's illustrations into a fantastical dream world that anyone can delve into. The classic Dutch-American poem tells the adventure of three boys, Wynken, Blynken, and Nod on a journey to catch stars (fish) by traveling in a clog-fashioned sailboat to the moon. The text from 1889 does lead to a few challenging words such as "afeard," but flows with a naturally charming rhyme scheme. The book would be great read aloud in the tone of an old sailor or a pirate to get into the spirit of the adventure. The illustrations in pencil, ink, gouache, gesso, and watercolor are the star of the book. Potter's modern folk art style takes the story's history gently into the modern age. The endless dark blue night sky and the truly kind face of the moon will draw anyone into this world.