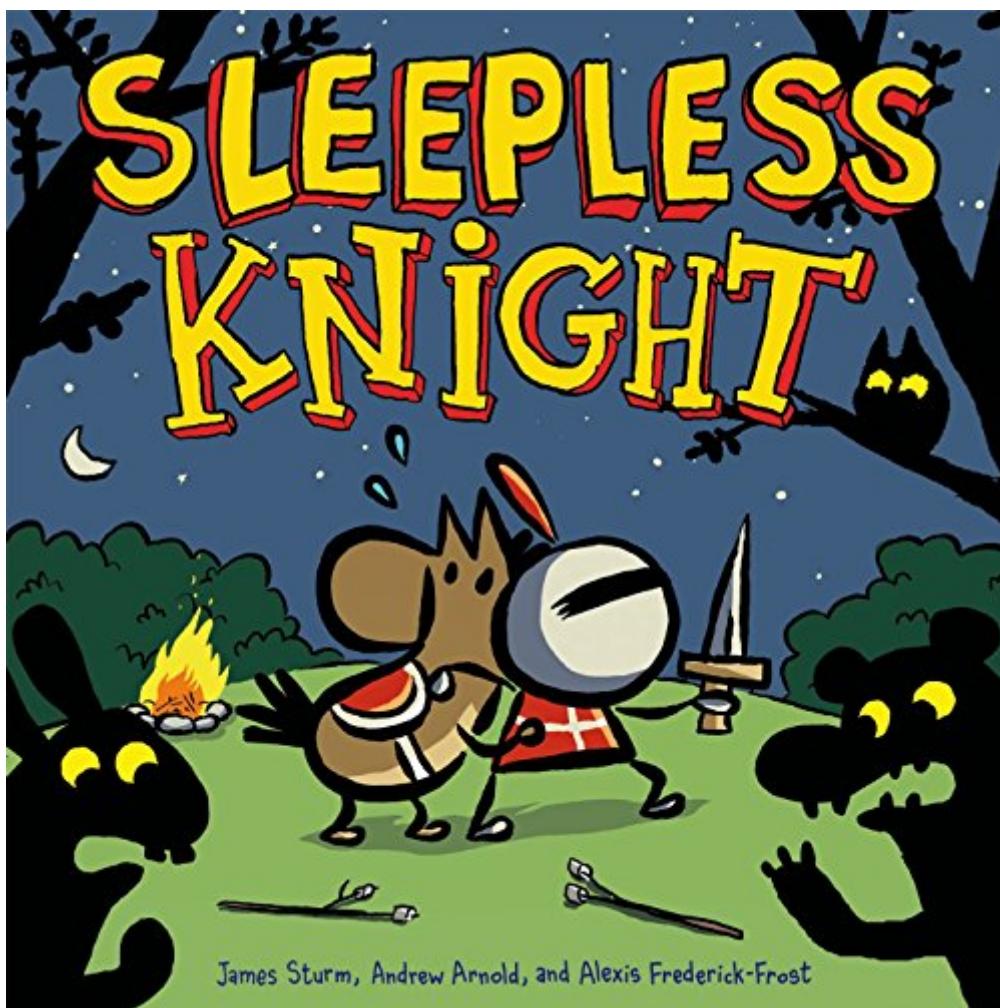


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# Sleepless Knight (Adventures In Cartooning)



## **Synopsis**

The Knight can't wait for her first camping trip! She and her horse Edward pack everything they need--including her beloved Teddy--and head out into the woods. But when it's time for bed, Teddy is nowhere to be found! A helpful rabbit thinks this "Teddy" sounds familiar, and sends the Knight off to a cave... but that's no teddy bear in that cave. That's a real bear! In this sweet, simple adventure, basic comics elements combine with the picture book format to create a picture book for the youngest of comics readers, and a fantastic introduction into the world of Adventures in Cartooning.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I read a lot of children's books over and over and over again, and very few are still enjoyable 17 readings in. Fortunately, this one is holding strong. My 3-year-old adores the story and expresses surprise every time (spoiler alert) the real bear shows up. It's a well-illustrated and fun read. Highly recommend this to others.

We love these books. We have an emerging graphic novelist who loves them too. I love Edward

and he represents my level of drawing skill.

Children love humor, comics, and drawing books. SLEEPLESS KNIGHT (2015) by James Sturm, Andrew Arnold, and Alexis Frederick-Frost has it all. Even the pun in the book’s title will make elementary children giggle. Many young readers will be familiar with the characters from Adventures in Cartooning. In this hilarious episode, the Knight along with Edward the horse embark on a camping adventure. Everything goes as planned until it’s bedtime and a beloved teddy bear goes missing. From the well-drawn panels to the easy-to-read speech bubbles, the book models outstanding sequential art writing. Many children want to make their own cartoons. Unfortunately some youth, particularly boys, have trouble with fine-motor control and quickly become frustrated. Sturm, Arnold, and Frederick-Frost make drawing fun and easy. Whether following the step-by-step visual instructions for drawing a knight or a bear, all children will be successful creating their own stories that extend the fun of Sleepless Knight. Graphic novels for young readers fly off the shelves. Sleepless Knight is an outstanding example of a quality comic for youth.

Sleepless Knight by James Sturm, Andrew Arnold, and Alexis Frederick-Frost uses the characters from the Adventures in Cartooning series of kids’ books about making comics to tell a straightforward (if goofy) story. The only nod to the series’ history of instructional how-tos are a few endpapers showing how to draw the book’s four main characters: the Knight, Edward the horse, a rabbit, and a bear. The Knight and Edward are going camping. Although poor Edward is completely overloaded with unnecessary stuff, the Knight adds one more thing: “I can’t sleep without my teddy!” After the beloved bear is found, the two unpack and set up camp, with a fire and plenty of marshmallows. There’s a talking rabbit and a little bit of danger to get the adrenaline pumping, and Teddy gets lost once again. Visually, the cartooning is fun, although I found it odd how Edward was drawn with his saddle on even when he’s tossing and turning on the ground, trying to sleep. For those interested in making comics, there are lots of interesting sample panels here, but I miss the guidance of the lessons in previous installments. I preferred combining education with a picture book format but there’s a reason the approach has changed. This is aimed much younger than the how-to books, for 3-to-5-year-olds instead of 6-to-10-year-olds, and intended as an introduction to the series. (The publisher provided an advance digital review copy.) (Review originally posted at

ComicsWorthReading.com.)

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