

What Are Reciprocal Pronouns?

Reciprocal pronouns show that two or more people, animals, things, or ideas are “acting mutually.” However, the multiple items may exist as part of a single group. There are only two reciprocal pronouns:

- *each other*
- *one another*

Although they are interchangeable, *one another* is considered to be the more formal of the two.

Examples:

Romeo and Juliet were in love with **each other**.

The students blamed **one another** for losing class privileges.

If we don't try to understand **one another**, our people will never get along.

Kris and Sara could not stand to be near **each other** when they were in the car.

FROM *NIGHTFALL* BY ISAAC ASIMOV



Milky Way in the southern sky from Chile—August 2010
European Southern Observatory—wikimedia.org

Eyes held **each other** as though the whole matter were a personal affair of respective will powers, and then Theremon broke away wordlessly. His breathing was harsh and ragged, and he scarcely noted the sudden hubbub that came from the adjoining room behind the closed door.

. . . “Only an idea,” said Beenay with a grin, “but you see the point. During an eclipse, these dozen suns would become visible because there'd be no *real* sunlight to drown them out. Since they're so far off, they'd appear small, like so many little marbles. Of course the Cultists talk of millions of Stars, but that's probably exaggeration. There just isn't any place in the universe you could put a million suns—unless they touch **one another**.”