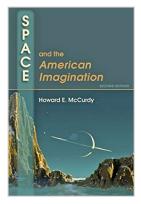
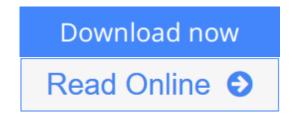
Space and the American Imagination



By Howard E. McCurdy



Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy

People dreamed of cosmic exploration?winged spaceships and lunar voyages; space stations and robot astronauts?long before it actually happened. *Space and the American Imagination* traces the emergence of space travel in the popular mind, its expression in science fiction, and its influence on national space programs.

Space exploration dramatically illustrates the power of imagination. Howard E. McCurdy shows how that power inspired people to attempt what they once deemed impossible. In a mere half-century since the launch of the first Earth-orbiting satellite in 1957, humans achieved much of what they had once only read about in the fiction of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells and the nonfiction of Willy Ley.

Reaching these goals, however, required broad-based support, and McCurdy examines how advocates employed familiar metaphors to excite interest (promising, for example, that space exploration would recreate the American frontier experience) and prepare the public for daring missions into space. When unexpected realities and harsh obstacles threatened their progress, the space community intensified efforts to make their wildest dreams come true.

This lively and important work remains relevant given contemporary questions about future plans at NASA. Fully revised and updated since its original publication in 1997, *Space and the American Imagination* includes a reworked introduction and conclusion and new chapters on robotics and space commerce.

<u>Download</u> Space and the American Imagination ...pdf

<u>Read Online Space and the American Imagination ...pdf</u>

Space and the American Imagination

By Howard E. McCurdy

Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy

People dreamed of cosmic exploration?winged spaceships and lunar voyages; space stations and robot astronauts?long before it actually happened. *Space and the American Imagination* traces the emergence of space travel in the popular mind, its expression in science fiction, and its influence on national space programs.

Space exploration dramatically illustrates the power of imagination. Howard E. McCurdy shows how that power inspired people to attempt what they once deemed impossible. In a mere half-century since the launch of the first Earth-orbiting satellite in 1957, humans achieved much of what they had once only read about in the fiction of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells and the nonfiction of Willy Ley.

Reaching these goals, however, required broad-based support, and McCurdy examines how advocates employed familiar metaphors to excite interest (promising, for example, that space exploration would recreate the American frontier experience) and prepare the public for daring missions into space. When unexpected realities and harsh obstacles threatened their progress, the space community intensified efforts to make their wildest dreams come true.

This lively and important work remains relevant given contemporary questions about future plans at NASA. Fully revised and updated since its original publication in 1997, *Space and the American Imagination* includes a reworked introduction and conclusion and new chapters on robotics and space commerce.

Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1200609 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Johns Hopkins University Press
- Published on: 2011-01-24
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .99" h x 6.11" w x 8.97" l, 1.20 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 408 pages

<u>Download</u> Space and the American Imagination ...pdf

E Read Online Space and the American Imagination ... pdf

Editorial Review

From Library Journal

The popular image of spaceflight has historically drawn on American cultural ideals such as the endless frontier, the heroic explorer, and faith in progress through technological advancement. This masterly study by McCurdy (coeditor of Spaceflight and the Myth of Presidential Leadership, LJ 10/15/97) examines the role that imagination and popular culture played in the formulation of national space policy that eventually sent Apollo astronauts to the moon in 1969. Unfortunately for space boosters, the reality of space exploration has fallen far short of the promised vision of lunar bases or manned interplanetary flight. McCurdy concludes that space advocates need to create new images to attract public and government support or witness the end of manned space flight. His thought-provoking analysis is highly recommended for large public and academic libraries.?Thomas J. Frieling, Bainbridge Coll., Ga. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

A very useful study for those interested in fictions about space travel and exploration.

(Science Fiction Studies)

An interesting work for all space fans.

(Choice)

About the Author

Howard E. McCurdy is a professor in the School of Public Affairs at American University; author of *Faster, Better, Cheaper: Low-Cost Innovation in the U.S. Space Program, Inside NASA: High Technology and Organizational Change in the U.S. Space Program, and The Space Station Decision: Incremental Politics and Technological Choice*; and coauthor of *Robots in Space: Technology, Evolution, and Interplanetary Travel, all published by Johns Hopkins.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Michael Stanford:

Space and the American Imagination can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to get every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing Space and the American Imagination nevertheless doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource info that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information may drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial contemplating.

Dolores Schreiber:

Is it anyone who having spare time after that spend it whole day by simply watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something new? This Space and the American Imagination can be the response, oh how comes? A book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your time by reading in this completely new era is common not a geek activity. So what these textbooks have than the others?

Felecia Holst:

That guide can make you to feel relax. This book Space and the American Imagination was bright colored and of course has pictures on there. As we know that book Space and the American Imagination has many kinds or style. Start from kids until adolescents. For example Naruto or Investigator Conan you can read and feel that you are the character on there. Therefore , not at all of book are make you bored, any it offers up you feel happy, fun and loosen up. Try to choose the best book for yourself and try to like reading that will.

Christina Bales:

What is your hobby? Have you heard which question when you got college students? We believe that that concern was given by teacher to the students. Many kinds of hobby, Everyone has different hobby. And you know that little person similar to reading or as examining become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important and book as to be the issue. Book is important thing to increase you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You will find good news or update in relation to something by book. A substantial number of sorts of books that can you choose to use be your object. One of them is this Space and the American Imagination.

Download and Read Online Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy #X1EL9VDIASM

Read Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy for online ebook

Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy books to read online.

Online Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy ebook PDF download

Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy Doc

Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy Mobipocket

Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy EPub

X1EL9VDIASM: Space and the American Imagination By Howard E. McCurdy