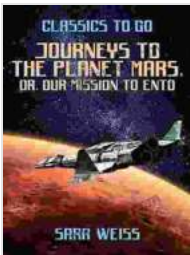


# Journeys to the Planet Mars: Our Mission to Explore the Red Planet

Mars, the fourth planet from the Sun, has long captivated the human imagination. Its reddish hue, its proximity to Earth, and its potential for harboring life have made it a prime target for space exploration.



## Journeys to the Planet Mars, or, Our Mission to Ento (Classics To Go) by Dr. Holden Hemsworth

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2658 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 550 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported  
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



The first spacecraft to visit Mars was Mariner 4, which flew by the planet in 1965. Since then, numerous other spacecraft have been sent to Mars, including orbiters, landers, and rovers. These missions have returned a wealth of data about Mars' atmosphere, surface, and interior, and have helped to pave the way for a future human mission to the Red Planet.

## The History of Human Exploration of Mars

The idea of sending humans to Mars has been around for centuries. In the 19th century, the Italian astronomer Giovanni Schiaparelli observed what

he thought were canals on Mars, which led to speculation that the planet was inhabited by intelligent beings. In the early 20th century, the American astronomer Percival Lowell founded the Lowell Observatory in Arizona, which became a center for the study of Mars.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the United States and the Soviet Union engaged in a space race to be the first to reach Mars. In 1965, the Soviet Union successfully sent the Venera 3 lander to Mars, which became the first spacecraft to land on another planet. In 1971, the United States sent the Mariner 9 orbiter to Mars, which became the first spacecraft to orbit another planet.

In the 1970s and 1980s, the United States and the Soviet Union continued to send spacecraft to Mars, including the Viking landers and the Mars Pathfinder rover. These missions provided valuable information about Mars' surface and atmosphere, and helped to pave the way for a future human mission to the Red Planet.

## **The Science of Mars**

Mars is a terrestrial planet, which means that it is made of rock and metal. It is about half the size of Earth, and has a mass that is about one-tenth that of Earth. Mars has a thin atmosphere that is composed mostly of carbon dioxide, and its surface is covered in craters, volcanoes, and canyons.

Mars has two polar ice caps that are made of water ice and carbon dioxide ice. The northern polar ice cap is about 1,000 kilometers wide and 3 kilometers thick, while the southern polar ice cap is about 600 kilometers

wide and 1 kilometer thick. Mars also has a number of glaciers and ice sheets, which are located in the planet's highlands.

Mars has a very cold climate, with an average surface temperature of -63 degrees Celsius. The planet's atmosphere is very thin, which means that it does not provide much protection from the Sun's radiation. Mars also has a very strong magnetic field, which helps to protect the planet from the solar wind.

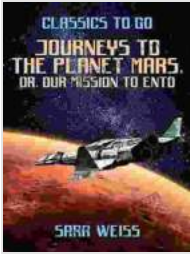
## **The Future of Human Exploration of Mars**

The human exploration of Mars is a major goal of the United States space program. NASA is currently planning to send a human mission to Mars in the 2030s. The mission will be a joint effort between NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA).

The human mission to Mars will be a complex and challenging undertaking. It will require the development of new technologies, including new spacecraft, new life support systems, and new ways to protect astronauts from the harsh environment of Mars.

The human mission to Mars will be a major milestone in human history. It will be the first time that humans have set foot on another planet, and it will open up new possibilities for scientific exploration and human settlement.

The human exploration of Mars is a journey that has been centuries in the making. It is a journey that has been filled with challenges and setbacks, but it is also a journey that has been filled with hope and inspiration. The human mission to Mars is a testament to the human spirit, and it is a testament to our desire to explore the unknown.



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