

# Space Exploration: All That Matters



## Space Exploration: All That Matters by Ingrid Newkirk

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Space exploration has been a source of fascination and wonder for centuries. In recent years, it has also become a major scientific and technological endeavor, with countries around the world competing to send humans and robots to other planets and moons.

In this book, we will explore the history of space exploration, from its early beginnings to the present day. We will discuss the challenges and opportunities that have faced space explorers, and we will look ahead to the future of this exciting field.

## The Early Years of Space Exploration

The history of space exploration can be traced back to the early days of astronomy. For centuries, astronomers have studied the stars and planets, and they have dreamed of one day traveling to these distant worlds.

In the 20th century, space exploration became a reality. In 1957, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the first artificial satellite to orbit the Earth. This event sparked a space race between the Soviet Union and the United States, and both countries soon began sending humans into space.

In 1961, Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human to orbit the Earth. A few months later, American astronaut Alan Shepard became the first American to travel into space.

The space race continued throughout the 1960s, with both the Soviet Union and the United States sending astronauts to the moon. In 1969, American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first humans to walk on the moon.

### **The Space Shuttle Era**

In the 1970s, the United States began developing the space shuttle. The space shuttle was a reusable spacecraft that could carry astronauts and cargo to and from orbit. The space shuttle was used for a variety of missions, including satellite deployment, space station construction, and spacewalks.

The space shuttle era lasted for over three decades. During that time, the space shuttle made over 130 missions. The space shuttle was retired in 2011.

### **The International Space Station**

The International Space Station (ISS) is a modular space station in low Earth orbit. The ISS is a joint project of five participating space agencies: NASA (United States), Roscosmos (Russia), JAXA



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