

# Adventures in Space

Titles in and about space, space travel, and astronomy.

## Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void

by Mary Roach

[DB071911](#)

Popular-science writer explores the human elements of space travel, including having bowel movements in zero gravity, coping with motion sickness and sexual urges, maintaining personal hygiene, and more.

Nonfiction.

## Chilling Effect [#1, Chilling Effect] by Valerie Valdes

[DB098805](#)

Captain Eva Innocente and the ragtag crew of her cargo ship undergo a series of dangerous missions in an attempt to pay the ransom on Eva's kidnapped sister. In the end, Eva must risk her crew, her ship, and the life she's built to save Mari. Fiction.

## Ashes of Eden by William Shatner

[DB045690](#)

At age sixty-two, Captain Kirk retires from Starfleet and faces a life devoid of challenge and adventure. But things change when a mysterious young woman

enlists his aid to save her homeworld. Kirk travels to a world that rejuvenates him, but his actions threaten to disrupt the fragile peace between the Federation and the Klingon empire. A Star Trek novel. Fiction.

## A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through? by Kelly Weinersmith and Zach Weinersmith

[DB117650](#)

Earth is not well. The promise of starting life anew somewhere far, far away--no climate change, no war, no Twitter--beckons, and settling the stars finally seems within our grasp. Or is it? Critically acclaimed, bestselling authors Kelly and Zach Weinersmith set out to write the essential guide to a glorious future of space settlements, but after years of research, they aren't so sure it's a good idea. Space technologies and space business are progressing fast, but we lack the knowledge needed to have space kids, build space farms, and create space nations in a way that doesn't spark conflict back home. In a world hurtling toward human expansion into space, *A City on Mars* investigates whether the dream of new worlds won't create nightmares, both for settlers and the people they leave behind. In the process, the Weinersmiths answer every question about space you've ever wondered about, and many you've never considered: Can you make babies in space? Should corporations govern space settlements? What about space war? Are we headed for a housing crisis on the Moon's Peaks of Eternal Light--and what happens if you're left in the Craters of Eternal Darkness? Why do astronauts

love taco sauce? Speaking of meals, what's the legal status of space cannibalism? With deep expertise, a winning sense of humor, and art from the beloved creator of Saturday Morning Breakfast Cereal, the Weinersmiths investigate perhaps the biggest questions humanity will ever ask itself-- whether and how to become multiplanetary. Get in, we're going to Mars. Nonfiction.

## To Be Taught, If Fortunate by Becky Chambers

[DB096792](#)

In Ariadne's future universe, explorers transform themselves instead of terraforming planets in order to survive. As Ariadne and her crewmates sleep between worlds, society on Earth changes drastically from decade to decade. But these changes have little bearing on her mission to explore, study, and send her findings back to Earth. Fiction.

## The Deep Sky by Yume Kitasei

[DB115190](#)

It is the eve of Earth's environmental collapse. A single ship carries humanity's last hope: eighty elite graduates of a competitive program, who will give birth to a generation of children in deep space. But halfway to a distant but livable planet, a lethal bomb kills three of the crew and knocks The Phoenix off course. Asuka, the only surviving witness, is an immediate suspect. With the crew turning on each other, Asuka is determined to find the culprit before they all lose faith in the mission--or worse, the bomber strikes again. Fiction.

## An Unkindness of Ghosts by Rivers Soloman

[DB091322](#)

Aster lives in the lowdeck slums of the HSS Matilda, a space vessel organized much like the antebellum South. For generations, Matilda has ferried the last of humanity to a mythical Promised Land. On its way, the ship's leaders have imposed harsh moral restrictions and deep indignities on dark-skinned sharecroppers like Aster. Embroiled in a grudge with a brutal overseer, Aster learns there may be a way to improve her lot-if she's willing to sow the seeds of civil war. Fiction.

## Fractal Noise by Christopher Paolini

[DB115188](#)

July 25, 2234: The crew of the Adamura discovers the Anomaly. On the seemingly uninhabited planet Talos VII: a circular pit, 50 kilometers wide. Its curve not of nature, but design. Now, a small team must land and journey on foot across the surface to learn who built the hole and why. But they all carry the burdens of lives carved out on disparate colonies in the cruel cold of space. For some the mission is the dream of the lifetime, for others a risk not worth taking, and for one it is a desperate attempt to find meaning in an uncaring universe. Each step they take toward the mysterious abyss is more punishing than the last. And the ghosts of their past follow. Fiction.

## Verily, A New Hope [#4, Shakespeare's Star Wars] by Ian Doescher

[BR020199](#), [DB077244](#)

The story of Star Wars: Episode IV; a New Hope told in the format of a Shakespearean play. Luke Skywalker purchases two droids, one of which carries a secret message from a captured princess. They draw Luke into a battle with the Empire. Fiction.

## The Possibility of Life: science, imagination, and our quest for kinship in the cosmos by Jaime Green

[DB118357](#)

One of the most powerful questions humans ask about the cosmos is: Are we alone? While the science behind this inquiry is fascinating, it doesn't exist in a vacuum. It is a reflection of our values, our fears, and most importantly, our enduring sense of hope. In *The Possibility of Life*, acclaimed science journalist Jaime Green traces the history of our understanding, from the days of Galileo and Copernicus to our contemporary quest for exoplanets. Along the way, she interweaves insights from science fiction writers who construct worlds that in turn inspire scientists. Incorporating expert interviews, cutting-edge astronomy research, philosophical inquiry, and pop culture touchstones ranging from *A Wrinkle in Time* to *Star Trek* to *Arrival*, *The Possibility of Life* explores our evolving conception of the cosmos to ask an even deeper question: What does it mean to be human? Nonfiction.

# The Asteroid Hunter: A Scientist's Journey to the Dawn of Our Solar System by D. S. Lauretta

[DB120237](#)

On September 11, 1999, humanity made a monumental discovery in the vastness of space. Scientists uncovered an asteroid of immense scientific importance--a colossal celestial entity. As massive as an aircraft carrier and towering as high as the iconic Empire State Building, this cosmic titan was later named Bennu. Remarkable for much more than its size, Bennu belonged to a rare breed of asteroids capable of revealing the essence of life itself. But just as Bennu became a beacon of promise, researchers identified a grave danger. Hurling through space, it threatens to collide with our planet on September 24, 2182. Leading the expedition was Dr. Dante Lauretta, the Principal Investigator of NASA's audacious OSIRIS-REx Asteroid Sample Return Mission. Tasked with unraveling Bennu's mysteries, his team embarked on a daring quest to retrieve a precious sample from the asteroid's surface - one that held the potential to not only unlock the secrets of life's origins but also to avert an unprecedented catastrophe. A tale of destiny and danger, *The Asteroid Hunter* chronicles the high-stakes mission firsthand, narrated by Dr. Lauretta. It offers readers an intimate glimpse into the riveting exploits of the mission and Dr. Lauretta's wild, winding personal journey to Bennu and back. Peeling back the curtain on the wonders of the cosmos, this enthralling account promises a rare glimpse into the tightly woven fabric of scientific exploration, where technical precision converges with humanity's profound curiosity and indomitable spirit. Nonfiction.

# Don't blow yourself up : the further true adventures and travails of the Rocket Boy of October sky by Homer H.

Hickman

[DB113849](#)

From Homer Hickam, the author of the #1 bestselling Rocket Boys adapted into the beloved film October Sky, comes this astonishing memoir of high adventure, war, love, NASA, and his struggle for literary success. Homer Hickam's memoir Rocket Boys and the movie adaptation October Sky have become one of the most popular stories in the world, inspiring millions to pursue a better life. But what happened to Homer after he was a West Virginia rocket boy? In his latest memoir, Homer recounts his life in college where he built the world's biggest, baddest game cannon, fought through some of the worst battles in Vietnam, became a scuba instructor, discovered sunken U-boats, wrote the definitive account of a World War II naval battle, befriended Tom Clancy, made a desperate attempt to save the passengers of a sunken river boat, trained the first Japanese astronauts, taught David Letterman to scuba dive, helped to fix the Hubble Space Telescope, wrote his number one bestselling Rocket Boys, and was on set during the making of October Sky. Although told with humor and wit, Hickam does not shy away from the pain and hardship endured and the mistakes he made during the tumultuous decades since his life in the town he made famous-Coalwood, West Virginia. Nonfiction.

