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Norman Mailer: Moonfire, The Epic Journey Of Apollo 11



Synopsis

And the moon came nearer:Â Journey back to July 20, 1969 Â It has been called theÂ single most historic event of the 20th century: OnÂ July 20, 1969, after a decade of tests and training, supported by a staff of 400,000 engineers and scientists, and with a budget of billions, the most powerful rocket ever launched brought Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins to the moon. NobodyÂ captured the men, the mood, and the machinery like Norman Mailer, hired byÂ LIFEÂ magazine to cover the mission in a dazzling reportage he later enhanced into the brilliantly crafted book,Â Of a Fire on the Moon. Rediscover this epoch-making event with TASCHENÂ™s adaptation of MailerÂ™s account, now in our popular Reader's Edition so you can reallyÂ curl up and travel not just back in time, but into outer space. The text is accompanied by hundreds of photographsÂ from theÂ NASA vaults, theÂ archives ofÂ LIFE, and other leading magazines of the day, documenting the development of the agency and the mission, life inside the command module and on the moonÂ™s surface, as well as the worldÂ™s jubilant reaction to the landing. Captions by leading Apollo 11 expertsÂ explain the history and science behind the images, citing the mission log, publications of the day, and postflight astronaut interviews, while an evocative introduction byÂ Colum McCann celebrates MailerÂ™s incomparable skill at transforming â œthe science of space...the weight of history...the breadth of mythologyâ • into prose. Â About the Series: Bibliotheca UniversalisÂ â ” Compact cultural companions celebrating the eclectic TASCHEN universe at an unbeatable, democratic price! Since we started our work as cultural archaeologists in 1980, the name TASCHEN has become synonymous with accessible, open-minded publishing.Â Bibliotheca UniversalisÂ brings together nearly 100 of our all-time favorite titles in a neat new format so you can curate your own affordable library of art, anthropology, and aphrodisia. BookwormÂ™s delight â ” never bore, always excite!

Book Information

Hardcover: 624 pages

Publisher: Taschen (July 30, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 3836556227

ISBN-13: 978-3836556224

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 1.6 x 7.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

My four-star review is an average of two ratings: five stars for the photography and three for the text. Mailer's prose is too flowery and overwrought for this reader's taste. What the astronauts, engineers and everyone else associated with Apollo accomplished was epic, and stands on its own merit without the need for this pompous ass to analyze and put it all into context (that is, the clearly biased context of his own worldview) for us. And the third-person injection of himself into the story under the ridiculous moniker "Aquarius" is just irritating. But the photos and (well-written) captions make the book well worth buying anyway.

This is an absolutely beautiful book. It is a well made, heavyweight book. The pictures are stunning. If you are a fan of the Apollo space program, you will love this book.

Beautiful photographic coverage of the first lunar landing mission.

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