

Off the Planet: Surviving Five Perilous **Months Aboard the Space Station Mir**

By Jerry M. Linenger



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Off the Planet: Surviving Five Perilous Months Aboard the Space Station Mir By Jerry M. Linenger Bibliography

• Sales Rank: #1178289 in Books

Published on: 2000-12-12Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.80" h x .76" w x 5.90" l,

• Binding: Paperback

• 256 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Imagine yourself in a decaying space station far away from the atmosphere you never realized you needed so badly, not knowing if the next malfunction would kill you or merely keep you busy. Dr. Jerry M. Linenger experienced just this and describes his harrowing but ennobling five months aboard *Mir* in *Off the Planet*, a memoir that evokes the excitement of living every day as a life-threatening adventure. Linenger's very personal writing style draws the reader into the story quickly, breezing through his childhood, Annapolis training, medical school, and selection as an astronaut, then moving quickly to the *Mir* assignment and its aftermath.

Linenger isn't shy about sharing his opinions. Chapter titles like "Broken Trust" and "An Attempted Coverup" show his feelings about the bizarre relationship between the crew and mission control that may have kept him and his Russian comrades in constant danger. He also heaps praise on his fellow crew members and family for their strength and perseverance throughout the mission--between communication difficulties, the cloud of doubt surrounding the station's systems, and problems like fires and toxic fumes, it's a wonder anyone survived with their sanity intact. The full-color pictures accompanying the text add further insight into life aboard *Mir. --Rob Lightner*

Review

Off The Planet: Surviving Five Perilous Months Aboard the Space Station Mir' by Jerry M. Linenger is one of the most readable. Off the Planet sheds new light on such present developments as the Russians' determination to continue the Mir after their repeated commitments to abandon it, combined with their commitments to the International Space Station. The book makes one think that perhaps the United States would be better off partnering in space with, say, Somalia or Lower Slobovia. Russian Psychologist, cure thyself and thy kindred. The Washington Times 20000305 The author, a NASA astronaut, orbited the earth more than two thousand times in the space station Mir and became the first American to spacewalk outside a foreign spacecraft. But he paid a high price for these distinctions. Inside, Mir was as mess, and several power failures lefts its inhabitants in total darkness. Worst of all, Linenger reports, was the lack of professionalism among their Russian handlers. "Mission control in Moscow became our enemy rather than our friend." he writes, "our nemesis rather than our support structure." Mission control threatened to cut the Russian astronauts pay if they performed poorly, and dangled bonuses for doing well. And mission control's propensity to micromanage was so extreme that the astronauts had their every activity programmed down to the minute. The Washington Post Book World 20000214

From the Back Cover IT WAS LIKE NOTHING ON EARTH.

"An engrossing report that NASA's publicity machine will bemoan." —Booklist

"NASA astronaut Linenger spent five months aboard the Russian space station Mir, a spacecraft operating far beyond its design life. His personal account vividly captures the challenges and privation he endured both before and during his flight." —Library Journal

On January 12, 1997, Dr. Jerry M. Linenger took off aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis, en route to an historic rendezvous with the Russian Space Station Mir.

But when he finally boarded Mir and took his first tour around the dark, ramshackle, and decaying space station, reminiscent of "six school buses all hooked together," Linenger knew he was in for a rough ride. Little did he know just how rough it would be, or how many brushes with death he and his Russian colleagues would face over the next 132 days...

The first complete and uncensored account of one of the most dangerous missions in the history of manned space travel Off the Planet is Dr. Jerry Linenger's dramatic account of space exploration turned survival mission. Not since Apollo 13 has an American astronaut faced so many catastrophic malfunctions and lifethreatening emergencies in one mission—and lived to tell about it.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jesse Valles:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be upgrade about what going on or info even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which is always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know what one you should start with. This Off the Planet: Surviving Five Perilous Months Aboard the Space Station Mir is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Ron Lauer:

The feeling that you get from Off the Planet: Surviving Five Perilous Months Aboard the Space Station Mir may be the more deep you looking the information that hide within the words the more you get interested in reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to know but Off the Planet: Surviving Five Perilous Months Aboard the Space Station Mir giving you buzz feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in specific way that can be understood by means of anyone who read the item because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. That book also makes your own personal vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this particular Off the Planet: Surviving Five Perilous Months Aboard the Space Station Mir instantly.

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