

[GET] Rocket Men: The Daring Odyssey of Apollo 8 and the Astronauts Who Made Man's First Journey to the Moon

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As we approach the 50th anniversary of the historic Apollo 8 mission, the New York Times best-selling author of *Shadow Divers* and *Pirate Hunters* writes the riveting story of NASA's boldest and riskiest decision: to send man to the moon in December 1968. In early 1968, the Apollo program was on shaky footing. President Kennedy's end-of-decade deadline to put a man on the moon was in danger, and the Soviets were pulling ahead in the space race. By August 1968, with their back against the wall, NASA decided to scrap their usual methodical approach. With just a few months to prepare, they would send a crew to the Moon by December 1968. In a year of dramatic violence and discord - the Tet offensive, the assassinations of MLK and RFK, the Chicago DNC riots - the Apollo 8 mission was a stark test of what America was capable of. With a focus on the three astronauts of the Apollo 8 crew, and their wives and children, Kurson has written a vivid, gripping, you-are-there narrative that shows anew how much danger was involved, and how much bravery it took, for man to travel away from Earth.

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