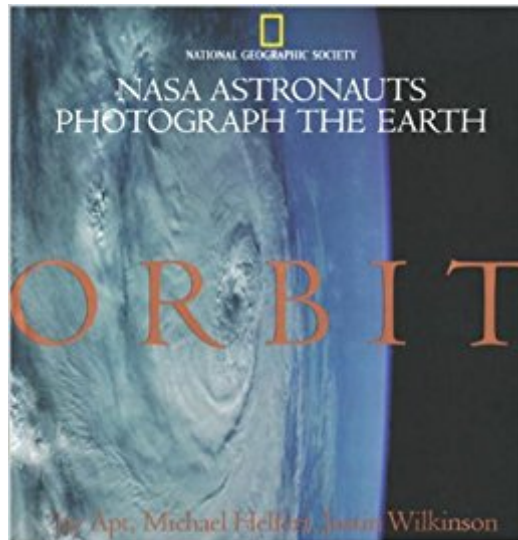




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Orbit: NASA Astronauts Photograph The Earth



Synopsis

Photographs taken from space capture the natural forces that have shaped the planet, and human impact on Earth.

Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: National Geographic; 1st edition (October 1, 1996)

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Customer Reviews

This awe-inspiring collection of photographs gives those of us stuck on Earth a glimpse of what our home planet looks like from the window of a space craft... and the big blue marble has never looked more beautiful. All the continents are shown, as well as weather events, the Aurora borealis, and the visible effects of anthropogenic environmental change--deforestation and desertification chief among them. Take a sobering look at our lovely planet and realize how small and fragile it really is.

YA. At first glance, Orbit might appear to be another glitzy coffee-table book with the rambling narrative so typical of National Geographic publications. Certainly astronaut Jay Apt has assembled what the authors describe as "the most important and beautiful photographs taken since humans first left Earth." Entertaining as the spectacular shots of our home planet are, however, the accompanying captions and chapter narratives give the full-page photographs an added immediacy that could only come from one who has actually been there. Brief historical and scientific commentary is enlivened with fascinating details. The organization of photographs and text makes Orbit a round-trip tour from blastoff to final approach along the blue-green waters of the Gulf Coast until Cape Canaveral looms into view. Readers can even keep track of the journey with the aid of miniature global maps on most pages. In addition to an index of places, there is an index to the

photographs that provides exact cartographic location, date of the shot, type of camera, and lens and film used. Cynthia J. Rieben, W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The book is published by National Geographic, so it goes without saying that the quality of the photographs is superb. But to look at this collection of space-born images is to never see the earth in the same way again. All the continents and oceans are covered and even the Aurora is documented. The astronauts who took these photographs are some of the luckiest men and women on (or off) the earth, and this book will show you why. Despite all that man has done to harm the environment, many of the photographs give you an eerie sense of what it might've been like to look down on the earth thousands of years ago, seeing only a beautiful collection of shapes, colors and clouds. Some pictures of the African desert and its coastline will leave you breathless. A wonderful collection that beats satellite imagery any day of the week.

This table book provides both beautiful photos of the Earth, as well as the context of a story and a timeline. Combining images taken from various space explorations, it gives you a real sense of both the beauty and details of our planet, and also a sense of the experience of an astronaut.

...and showed us our own home as we had never seen it before "and may never see it again. The next to see what they saw may come from afar, and they also may well wonder.

The selection of U.S. photos was fairly disappointingly small.

Every image has me in awe, and every page turned takes one by surprise by the beauty of our little blue planet and all its natural yet occasionally mysterious phenomenon. I have AGAIN purchased my 4th (or fifth?) copy for another friend.

This book stands out because the copy is just as good as the pictures. A coffee table book you can read, too.

Good reference book

Fantastic photos!

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