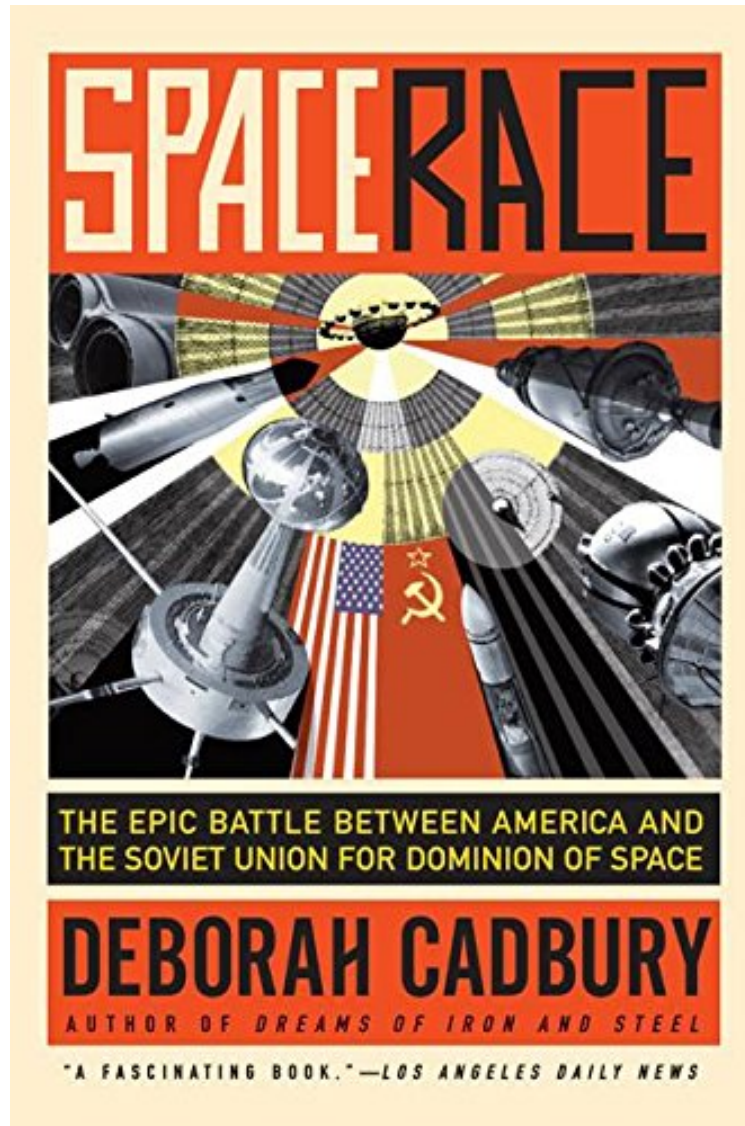


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Space Race: The Epic Battle Between America and the Soviet Union for Dominion of Space

Deborah Cadbury

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Deborah Cadbury : Space Race: The Epic Battle Between America and the Soviet Union for Dominion of Space before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Space Race: The Epic Battle Between America and the Soviet Union for Dominion of Space:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Book about a sometimes tedious subject By mahagga73 Far from being a manual dealing with technical data, the author brings the main figures, Von Braun and Korolev to

life, describing in great detail what sacrifices and obstacles each had to face, both domestically and politically, to attain heights in technology never attained in man's wildest dreams. It does a very good job of not wandering off track chronologically, and even though we all know the climax of Armstrong walking on the moon, keeps the reader enthralled till the end. Shows the frailty and circumstances of these two prominent figures in history, of which they persevered. Even goes into the somewhat gray area of the German scientists' shady pasts and questions the morality associated with that. A great book, and an excellent read for the novice to study this fascinating era. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By krequired reading for school 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great overview By Daniel J. Knauff came to maturity during the great space race to the Moon, and later worked on the Space Transportation System (AKA "Space Shuttle") program. I've also read quite a few books on the subject, and this is clearly one of the best.

One of the most exhilarating true adventures in history, the race into space was marked by courage, duplicity, political paranoia, astonishing technological feats, and unbelievable triumphs in the face of overwhelming adversity. It is the story of an unparalleled rivalry between superpowers and of the two remarkable men at the center of the conflict. On the American side was Wernher von Braun, the camera-friendly former Nazi scientist, who was granted hero status and almost unlimited resources by a government panicked at the thought of the Cold War enemy taking the lead. The Soviet program was headed by Sergei Korolev, a former political prisoner whose identity was a closely guarded state secret. Korolev was expected to—and did—work miracles on a shoestring budget, his cooperation assured through intimidation and threats of possible disgrace or death. These rivals were opposite in every way, save for one: each was obsessed with the idea of launching a man to the Moon. Deborah Cadbury's extraordinary history combines action and suspense with a moving portrayal of the space race's human dimension. Using source materials never before available, she tells a riveting story of the espionage, ambition, ingenuity, and passion behind humankind's mind-bending voyage beyond the bounds of Earth.

From Publishers Weekly Cadbury (*Dreams of Iron and Steel*) focuses on two men "obsessed by the same vision... locked in an unparalleled contest" to reach outer space: one is the cold, charismatic Wernher von Braun, but the soul of this finely honed, consistently compelling tale (the basis for a National Geographic channel series to air in June) belongs to Sergei Korolev. Korolev survived Stalin's gulag to become the mythical chief designer of the Soviet space program for 20 years. Driven to beat the Americans, Korolev and his team of long-suffering scientists and technicians, working with inadequate funding, threw together spacecraft of dubious quality and launched them into space. While von Braun's reputation has suffered immeasurably from the release of secret files revealing his use of slave labor under the Nazis, Korolev, though unacknowledged in his lifetime, today remains a hero in Russia. In the end this is a cautionary tale, a story of what happens when the dreams of humankind are hijacked by the darker aspirations of politics: the space shuttle still flies and the ICBMs still wait in their silos, and we are left to wonder at what price we soar to the heavens. 8 pages of color and 8 pages of bw photos not seen by PW. (May) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist *Starred* Cadbury traces the development of rockets and spaceflight from German experiments before World War II to the manned moon landings, telling the story in layperson's language (though with a fine glossary appended) and in the process providing powerful biographies of the two outstanding designers, Wernher von Braun and Sergei Korolev. Korolev began as a supervisor of the efforts of German technicians captured during and after the war but later achieved outstanding results with his own designs by launching Sputnik and the first manned orbital flights. Von Braun's history included winking at the use of slave labor but also a succession of breakthroughs that led to the historic day in July 1969 when Neil Armstrong stepped out on the moon. Both Soviet and U.S. programs were plagued with failures and outright disasters that Cadbury graphically though evenhandedly describes, and Korolev literally worked himself to death. The true monument to both designers is the last two generations of manned spaceflight. Appealing to everyone from the generation who listened in high school to the early launches to high-school students today who want a keen-sighted view of the spacefaring past, this outstanding volume is likely to be one of the standards on its subject for years to come. Roland Green Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "A fascinatingly detailed account." (GQ) "A fresh and revealing look at one of the most crucial battlefields of the cold war." (Randy Dotinga, Christian Science Monitor) "A fascinating book." (Los Angeles Daily News) "This is an utterly engrossing book." (Robert Legvold, Foreign Affairs) "Space Race is an admirable record of humanity's daring first forays away from the home planet." (Chris Scott, BookPage) "Cadbury skillfully weaves together politics, technology and biographical detail to produce a gripping tale." (Slava Gerovitch, Moscow Times) "A swift, exciting history of the race to the moon.... First-rate research and reporting." (Kirkus s (starred)) "Cadbury's book is an excellent example of sound research, superb writing, and accomplished storytelling all rolled into one masterly effort." (Library Journal)