

## Apollo 8 – more resources (Dec 2023)

*From Andy, following his presentation at the joint meeting with GFAS in November*

At the end I said I would send a list with some reading and viewing suggestions, in case you'd like to learn more about the Apollo 8 mission or, indeed, other space missions - so here it is

- *A Man on the Moon: The voyages of the Apollo astronauts*, by Andrew Chaiken  
I think this is the best book about Apollo, and it was my primary source for the talk.

- *Failure is Not an Option: Mission Control from Mercury to Apollo 13*, by Gene Kranz  
Truly one of the heroes of the US space programme, Kranz's book is well worth a read.

- *Carrying the Fire: An astronaut's journeys*, by Michael Collins  
Michael Collins - Gemini 10 astronaut, Apollo 8 capcom and Apollo 11 command module pilot - is one of the nicest, most interesting and well-rounded astronauts. His book is absolutely excellent.

- *Go, Flight!: The Unsung Heroes of Mission Control, 1965–1992*, by Rick Houston and Milt Heflin  
A bit more technical than the others, nonetheless has some interesting stuff in it.

- *The Right Stuff*, by Tom Wolf  
A great book (and a good movie) about the early days of the US space programme and the test pilots who flew on Project Mercury.

There's some really good material on YouTube and BBC Sounds, as well...

- *James Burke: Spaceman!* A tribute to the late, great BBC science and space missions commentator. Absolutely excellent.  
<https://youtu.be/NTLBBV8zswA?si=a1u3iVJoNrFx1DKj>

- *An Evening with the Apollo 8 Astronauts*: A fascinating event from 2008 when the three astronauts gave a riveting and hilarious insight into their mission (there's a long introduction: the astronauts start at about the 15-minute mark).  
[https://youtu.be/Q2h\\_FtLzrrU?si=VDu80sAVjl9HR4CY](https://youtu.be/Q2h_FtLzrrU?si=VDu80sAVjl9HR4CY)

- *Apollo 8: Presented by British astronaut Helen Sharman*: Thank you to Fiona for suggesting this great recording.  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0001lw3>

- *The Infinite Monkey Cage: Hollywood in Space*: Thanks to Julie for this suggestion, a humorous look at the accuracy of sci fi movies.  
[The Infinite Monkey Cage - Series 28 - Hollywood in Space - BBC Sounds](#)

- *Light Years Ahead: The 1969 Apollo Guidance Computer*: This one is for the real geeks amongst you, but it's surprisingly fascinating.  
<https://youtu.be/B1J2RMorJXM?si=kKBnVhEG77RdK6Ex>

Clear skies,  
Andy