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In the Shadow of the Moon

By Gregory Weidman

[Music playing]
[Radio chatter]
[Electronic beeps]
[Radio chatter]

Man:

in my head, I guess,
whereas most people
just have one moon.
I look at the Moon just like everybody else
who's never been there
and, you know, there it is and
I've always thought it was interesting...
Whether it's full or a sliver,
or what have you.
But every once in a while,
I do think of a second moon,
you know, the one that
I recall from up close
and, yeah, it is kind of hard to believe
that I was actually up there.

Man:

I want to promise you, I'm human.
I pinched myself to find out
whether it was really happening.
I called the Moon my home
for three days of my life
and I'm here to tell you about it.
That's science fiction.

Man:

after the Wright brothers.
He could barely believe
that I went to the Moon.
But my son, Tom, was five.
And he didn't think
it was any big deal.
[Music playing]

Capcom:

Lift-off, we have a lift-off.

Capcom:

The tower is clear.
Woke up this morning #
With light in my eyes...

Man:

One day, under secret orders,
a group of us at the Test Pilot Center
were ordered to go to Washington
to get a briefing.
And they talked about the Atlas booster
and putting a capsule on top of that
with a man in it,
Uh, to... To try to put a man into space.
And of course, at that time,
the Atlas boosters were blowing up
every other day down at Cape Canaveral.
Hey Mr. Spaceman #
Won't you please take me along #
I won't do anything wrong #
And it looked like a very, you know,
quick way to have a short career.
... Take me along for a ride #
Woke up this morning #
I was feeling quite weird #
I had flies in my beard #
My toothpaste was smeared #
Over my window
they'd written my name #
Said, "So long,
we'll see you again" #
Hey Mr. Spaceman #
Won't you please take me along #
I won't do anything wrong #
Hey Mr. Spaceman #
Won't you please take #
me along for a ride
[Radio chatter]
[Applause]

Kennedy:

to take longer strides,
time for a great new
American enterprise,
time for this nation

to take a clearly leading role
in space achievement.
Politically, it was about
beating the Russians,
but those of us with a science bent
or a curious bent,
knew it was more than that.
I believe that this nation
should commit itself
to achieving the goal,
before this decade is out,
of landing a man on the Moon
and returning him safely to the Earth.
It was beautiful in its simplicity.
Do what? Moon!
When? End of decade!
He challenged us to do
what I think most people
thought was impossible, including me.
We go into space because whatever
Mankind must undertake,
free men must fully share.

Kennedy:

But in a very real sense,
it will not be one man
going to the Moon.
We make this judgment affirmatively;
It will be an entire nation.
For all of us must work to put him there.
[Music playing]

Collins:

of making model airplanes.
Most of them,
little balsawood contraptions.
Some of them actually flew
and I liked that.
So I'd been interested
in mechanical objects in the sky,
I guess, from as long
as I could remember.

Mitchell:

I was always awed by flight.
When I was a young lad,
a barnstormer flying
a World War I airplane
landed on our farm and Dad
helped him refuel and I got a ride,
and he took me for a circle of the field
and that was my first airplane ride,
at about four years of age.

Newsreader:

The Mustangs dropped their wing tanks
and plunged into the fight.

Cernan:

maybe it was the real life news,
but I knew that someday, sometime,
that's what I wanted to do.
I knew I wanted to fly airplanes.
In '61, I had just graduated
from the Test Pilot School
and I had a job flying fighters
in fighter tests at Edwards.

Newsreader:

At the Flight Test Center
is the fastest school in the world:
The United States Air Force
Flight Test School,
from whose doors upon graduation
come the men destined to push back
the frontiers
of aeronautical knowledge.
[Music playing]

Mitchell:

Test pilot experience was critical.
It was a profession with
a lot of esprit de corps
and a lot of danger
and a pioneering spirit.
[Music playing]
[Radio chatter]

Mitchell:

supersonic speeds and high altitudes,
learning to survive that and bring your
machine back down,
it's the fundamental task
and the higher and faster you flew,
the more dangerous
and more exciting it became.

Man:

best job in the world
from the day I entered flight training
until I looked on TV
one day and Al Shepherd
goes up in a rocket.

Newsreader:

The rocket performs perfectly!
He's gone higher than I've ever gone
and faster than I've ever gone
and most important,
he's made more noise doing it.
He's even on TV doing it!
How do I...
How do I get that job?

Announcer:

"I've Got A Secret!"
Brought to you tonight by...
Dream Whip!
The light, delicious topping
that won't wilt on your desserts.
Dream Whip!

Host:

your secret to me, Mr. And Mrs. Armstrong,
We'll show it at the same time
to our audience at home.
If you'll both lean in and whisper.
[Applause]
Everybody put their application
in to every NASA request.
I mean, it was just,
sort of a peer kind of thing.

So NASA put out a request
for a third group of astronauts in early '63,
and of course everybody
in my test pilot class put their application in
because it was another opportunity
for a new challenge.
It certainly sounded very challenging
and something that if...
if other people wanted to be
a part of this
and this was a noble national effort,
why, I wanted to be a part of it.
Now how would you feel,
Mrs. Armstrong,
If it turned out...
Of course, nobody knows;
But if it turns out that your son
is first man to land on the Moon,
What... How would you feel?
Well, I guess I'd just say God bless him
and I wish him the best of all good luck.
[Applause]
I'll bet you.
[Music playing]

Collins:

was far and away the best group
I had ever been associated with.
There weren't any really weak sisters
in the bunch.
They were just an amazingly competent,
hardworking,
really good bunch of people.
One day... you're just Gene Cernan,
young naval aviator, whatever,
and the next day,
you're an American hero.
Literally.
And you have done nothing.
When Tom Wolfe
wrote "The Right Stuff",
I thought,
"Boy! That sounds good.
People are going to think

I have the right stuff!
I'm the same guy I always was,
but now, I've got the right stuff!"
It's sort of an unshakeable belief
in your own infallibility.
That's what the right stuff is.
That you're immortal,
that you can do anything
that is thrown at you.

Scott:

how to go to the Moon,
there was a lot on paper.
And we didn't know how to do things
and we didn't know how things would work.
It was just a matter of
putting them together,
making them work
and then correcting deficiencies.
And as pilots, astronauts,
why, we participated
in all of these things,
along with management
and the engineers.

Collins:

What we did in the early days
was take the overall spacecraft
and divide it up like a pie.
We sliced that pie up
into 10 or 15 different pieces
and we handed each slice
to one of the astronauts
and said, "This is yours,
we want you to learn that slice."

Kennedy:

We shall send to the Moon,
a giant rocket
more than 300 feet tall,
made of new metal alloys,
some of which have
not yet been invented,
fitted together with a precision

better than the finest watch,
on an untried mission
to an unknown celestial body,
and then return it safely to Earth,
re-entering the atmosphere
at speeds of over
causing heat about half that
of the temperature of the Sun,
Almost as hot as it is here today.
And do all this...
And do all this
and do it right and do it first,
before this decade is out,
then we must be bold.

Cernan:

I look back at Kennedy,
was he a visionary,
was he a dreamer,
was he politically astute?
The chances are, yes,
he was probably...
probably all three.
We'll never know.
Nor will we ever know
whether he really fully appreciated
The challenge that he had laid down
in front of... the American people.

Kennedy:

And therefore, as we set sail,
we ask God's blessing
on the most hazardous and dangerous
and greatest adventure
on which man has ever embarked.
[Music playing]

Scott:

Things were moving very quickly
and I was assigned as a back-up crew
to the first Apollo mission.
Things were in sort of a turmoil,
there were a lot of problems,
and Gus Grissom was

doing the best he could,
with his crew of Ed White and Roger Chaffee,
to straighten them out,
try to get the spacecraft
ready to fly.

Collins:

We were incredibly intelligent
about some of
the hazards that we faced.
And we thought long
and hard about them
and we did everything we could
to ward them off,
but the business of 100% oxygen environment
inside the spacecraft,
we really had not thought that through.

Man:

And the wires were really bad in there.
I'd asked Gus, I said,
"Gus, why don't you say something
about this wiring? "
I said, "It's really terrible,
they ought to do something about this wiring,
it's really bad."
and he said, "I don't..."
And he said, "I can't say anything about it
or they'll fire me."
That's what he told me.
I couldn't believe it.

Cernan:

this test on the ground,
they weren't going to fly.
I guess we, and I think of all of us
in the NASA family,
never gave it a second thought.
what would happen if you got a spark
in a 16 psi,
[Music playing]

Bean:

I picked up the phone

and they said... "Who's this? "
I told them Alan Bean,
he said, "Well, we're down here,
we're doing this test
and we've lost the crew."
And I said...
"Where'd they go?
You've lost them? "
Because I thought
they just needed to run the test
and they can't find them.
"No" they said,
"We've lost the crew."
I said, "Maybe they're
down at the beach house."
And they said,
"No, there was a fire."
And then it dawns on me
that maybe they're talking about
something different than I think.

Newsreader:

We interrupt our regular programming
to bring you this special report.
Here's ABC's science editor,
Jules Bergman.
Top space agency officials
are flying to Cape Kennedy tonight
to begin the official investigation
into what caused the flash fire
that killed the nation's
first three Apollo astronauts earlier tonight.
They died at t-minus ten minutes
into a simulated launch countdown,
[Voice breaking]
helplessly trapped inside their spacecraft.
[Music playing]

Cernan:

The accident occurred in January,
the end of January 27th.
And we're burying
our guys at Arlington
and I wasn't sure whether we were

burying the entire Apollo program
or three... of our buddies.

[Music playing]

Bean:

That was the period, the late '60s,
when we were fighting in Vietnam
and when a lot of racial
issues were going around.

Collins:

I was not really in tune
with what was going
on in the country.
Our whole culture was changing
markedly in this period.

[Music playing]

The Civil Rights Movement,
the Women's Movement,
the whole movement
toward a greater openness of society.

Collins:

of the situation in Vietnam
because a lot of our friends
were flying airplanes in combat in Vietnam.
And there would we have been,
had we not been in
the space program.

I guess I can sort of admit it now,
I've admitted it a little
bit to a few friends.

That... I've always had a guilt complex
to some degree.

That was my war, good or bad.

Whether it was a good war
or a bad war,

we're not discussing that,

but that was my war, to fight for my country,
and my buddies were getting shot at
and shot down

and in some cases captured.

And I was getting my picture
on the front page of the paper.

And I've always felt
that they fought my war for me.
They look at it totally different.
They said, "You were
doing something
that this country needed
more than anything else at the time.
You were part of a program,
the only thing we had
to hold our head high and be proud of."
[Music playing]

Lovell:

was a disastrous year.
We had several assassinations,
Uh, not too good...
[Mouthing]
So we needed something
really to cap it up that was positive,
to give the American people
a sense of... of accomplishment
or at least satisfaction
of something.
If you were a scriptwriter
for the movies,
you couldn't have picked
a better scenario than Apollo 8!
[Music playing]

We hear from the CIA
that the Russians
are going to send a spacecraft
around the Moon with a person in it
and upstage us.
If they orbit the Moon
before we land on the Moon,
then they've gotten there first.

Lovell:

We changed our plans on Apollo 8.
They changed the mission
from an Earth orbital type
to a flight to the Moon.
And it was a bold move,
it had some risky aspects to it,

but it was a time when
we made bold moves.

Capcom:

The engines are off.
Four, three, two, one, zero.
We have commenced...
[Radio chatter]

Capcom:

Apollo 8, Houston.
Your trajectory and
guidance are go, over.

Man:

Thank you, Michael.

Capcom:

Yeah, you're looking real good...

Lovell:

It wasn't until we rolled over
that we actually saw the Moon
for the first time.
We were just 60 miles
above the craters,
and, you know...
we were sort of like three school kids
looking in a candy store window,
and we forgot the flight plan,
here we are, just 60 miles away.

Man:

look at that picture over there!
Wow, is that pretty!
[Shutter clicking]
You got a colour film, Jim?
Hand me a roll of colour, quick.
[Mixed chatter]
Just grab me a colour.
A colour exterior.

Lovell:

as much as we could

and, of course,
we took the photograph
of the famous
Earth rise around the Moon
and I have to credit Bill Anders
for taking the picture.
Uh, he claims it
all the time, anyway!

Man:

Calm down, Lovell!

Lovell:

Well, I got it right...
Oh, it's a beautiful shot!

Lovell:

And of course, Christmas Eve,
being around the Moon
on Christmas Eve,
we thought this would be
a very auspicious time to say something.
The three of us selected to read
from the Old Testament,
and we had it in fireproof paper
in the back of our flight manual.

Man:

"In the beginning,
God created the Heaven
and the Earth
and the Earth was
without form and void.
And darkness was upon
the face of the deep.
And the Spirit of God
moved upon the face of the waters
and God said,
'let there be light'.
And there was light."

Collins:

I thought it was a very nice touch,
it fit very nicely into getting away

from all this machinery,
and let's get down into,
sort of, the fundamentals
of what makes all this happen,
why are we here.
I liked it.

Man:

good night, good luck;
A merry Christmas and
God bless all of you,
all of you on the good Earth.

Lovell:

When we came back,
there was a lady in Dallas, Texas,
who was an atheist,
and I don't have
anything against atheists,
but she sued us.
For the mixing of...
Church and State,
and she said that
was inappropriate.
Maybe it was, I don't know.
[Music playing]

Bean:

At that time, we were all practicing
to go to the Apollo 11 site,
Sea of Tranquillity.
Because we had
three different crews training.
Apollo 11
was going to make the try in July
and then two months later,
we'd make it if they didn't make it,
and then if we didn't make it,
two months later
in November, Apollo 13.
So we had three chances to get to the Moon
by the end of the decade.
And so when Neil and Buzz and Mike
were assigned to Apollo 11

we knew they were going to make
the first shot.
They were a really,
really good crew,
they got along really well.

Aldrin:

Mike was always the easy-going guy
who brought levity into things.
And I felt kind of bad that he wasn't going to have
the opportunity of being to...
Being able to be in a Lunar Lander
and make a landing,
but that was a decision that...
[Clears throat]
certainly was way over my head.
One guy had to stay
in the command module
and the other two were
going to go to the Moon
and I was... Pigeonholed,
if that's the right word,
as a command module pilot
and so that...
I lost my chance of...
of walking on the Moon
but in return for that,
I gained a chance to...

A:

and perhaps be a member
of the first crew to land on the Moon.

Bean:

One thing I know about Buzz,
he's one of these guys
that's a lot smarter than most of us.
He had a nickname,
Dr. Rendezvous.
He loves to talk
about technical stuff,
particularly rendezvous.
I mean, he'll get this
orbit going this way

and that orbit
going the other way
and he really grooved
on those things.
You didn't want to sit
near him in a party
because he would start
talking about rendezvous.
And you would want to be talking
about that good-looking
girl across the room.
He could care less,
he wanted to talk about rendezvous.
And he'd been talking
to you about it all... all week long.
That's right, that was what
I was really interested in.

Duke:

Neil Armstrong highly.
He was probably
the coolest under pressure
of anyone that I had
ever had the privilege of flying with.
[Engines power up]
He was just Mr. Coolstone,
if you will.
One of the oddities
in Neil's training
was this thing we lovingly called
"the flying bedstead".
It was an ungainly-
looking contraption
and it was meant
to imitate the L.M., the Lunar Module.
Neil, he and I were
in adjoining offices, same secretary.
I remember one day I came in
in the morning,
I run into a couple of guys, they say,
"Do you know that Neil bailed
out of the LLTV this morning? "

Bean:

He said, whoever it was,
Two or three guys said, "Yeah!"
I said, "Okay, I'm going
in there and ask him."
So I go in there and Neil...
Neil's fooling around,
nothing going on.
I said, "those guys
out in the office
Said you bailed out of
the LLTV this morning."
He said, "Yeah."
That was all he said, "Yeah."
I mean this guy had been
a second and a half
from being killed
and that was it.
He didn't say,
"I nearly got killed",
"I nearly, you know..."
I don't know what we...
"Yeah." that was it, that was it!
I mean, what was he
supposed to do?
I mean, maybe
he could have gone out
and gotten roaring
drunk or something
but that's not Neil, you know?
He went back and shuffled paper.
That's what you had to do.
You know, the program goes on!
[Music playing]
Tomorrow we, the crew
of Apollo 11, are...
privileged to represent
the United States
in our first attempt
to take Man to another
heavenly body.
[Sigh]
Um...
Well, I'd given up smoking the pipe
maybe three weeks before launch.

That's my best recollection,
maybe having a drink,
three days before.
I don't think anybody
really slept too well
the night before,
you're just wondering
about whether you can...
get enough rest
for what you need
to possibly do.
[Music playing]

Newsreader:

colour coverage of...
Sponsored by Kellogg's.
Kellogg's puts more
in your morning.
Here from CBS News
Apollo headquarters
at Kennedy Space Center,
correspondent Walter Cronkite.
Good morning.
It's t-minus one hour,
In just an hour and a half,
if all goes well,
Apollo 11 astronauts
Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins
are to lift off from
pad 39-a out there,
on the voyage Man always
has dreamed about.
Next stop for them: The Moon.
[Music playing]
[Applause]

Collins:

Well, on launch days, it's kind of strange,
you go out in a van to the launch pad,
and you're... you're kind of used to that.
Riding in a van is the American way,
so that's not a problem.
When you get out to the base
of this gigantic gantry,

it's... it's empty,
there's nobody there, it's deserted.
And you're accustomed
to scores of workers,
you know, swarming like ants
all up and down and around it,
and, you know, you're in
with a crowd of people.
And then suddenly
there's nobody there
and you think, "God, you know,
maybe they know something I don't know!"

Aldrin:

to the launch pad.
So I had about ten minutes to look out
and see the Sun rise,
see the waves coming in
and see the evidence
of the people out on the side.
Just... And thinking about the fact
that this was something
I wanted to remember.
So it is now, before they go,
as their gleaming vehicle
sits poised and peaceful
out there behind me on pad 39-a,
that there is time to
think of those three men
and the burdens and the hopes
that they carry on
behalf of all Mankind.

Collins:

the whole world was watching us.
So, not only do I have
a lot of things I can do wrong,
but the consequences
should I do them wrong
are going to be immediately obvious
to three billion people
and... that's
a worrisome thought.

Capcom:

and counting, t-minus ten.
We're aiming for our planned lift-off
at 32 minutes past the hour.
This is Kennedy launch control.

Aldrin:

people who have not been on rockets
continue to ask
"You were not scared? "
No, we were not scared!
Until something happens,
then it's time to get scared.

Capcom:

the two minute mark in the countdown,
t-minus 1 minute, 54 seconds.

Collins:

is a very negative thing.
You just hope nothing goes wrong.
You think, "oh, whoosh,
we got by that one
and maybe
we'll get by that one..."
and then when you get
very close to launch,
suddenly, it's like someone turned on
a big electric light bulb,
You think, "You know,
I think we're really going to go, you know,
I think it's going to happen.
We're going to leave!"

Capcom:

Astronauts report it feels good.
T-minus 25 seconds...
T-minus 15 seconds.
Guidance is internal.
Ignition sequence starts.
Six, five, four,
Three, two, one, zero.
[Engines roaring]

Aldrin:

At the moment of lift-off,
There were numbers
changing on the dashboard,
there were sounds
indicating in the voice loop
that we'd had lift-off,
but what did we feel?
I think we felt,
in those early moments,
that we were not attached
to the ground any more,
but there was
a slight hunting, maybe,
of the guidance system.
I'd describe it as a nervous novice
driving a wide car down a narrow alley.
You know, you've got to make corrections,
you're not quite sure.
You zig this way and that way...
And what it is,
it's those big motors underneath
"gimbaling", you know,
swivelling back and forth
to keep you in balance.
This thing is a pencil as it goes up
and it has to be
balanced very precisely.
And the gimbaling of the motors,
you feel in the seat of your pants
and thinking, "Gee, that launch tower
is just a few feet off to one side.
I hope this sucker ain't gonna gimbal over
in that direction too much."
And then when they tell
you launch tower clear,
you kind of say, "Oh, whoosh,
that's good. We don't have to worry
about hitting that moose."
And then off you go from there.
[Music playing]
Will metal
stand this kind of vibration?
Have the engineers realized

how this thing shakes?
Because it shakes and vibrates
so much more than I ever imagined.

Lovell:

the fuel manifolds,
we could hear the fuel
rumble down these huge pipes.
Then it dawned on me,
from an emotional point of view,
that we're going to go to the Moon.

Mitchell:

The sound and the reverberations
coming from those engines,
those five engines
when they're ignited,
it shakes the whole body,
the reverberations from it.
It's very emotional.

Scott:

You're not just riding along.
A lot of people think
you're just lying on your back
waiting for it to happen.
But not really,
because every second
is something of significance.

Duke:

from the flight surgeon later on
that my heartbeat
was a 144 at lift-off.
John's was 70.
Yeah, well, I told him.
I said mine was too old
to go any faster. Yeah.
I was wondering, why did we do
all these launch simulations?
If I had had to reach a switch
with all of that vibration going on
I wouldn't have quite been sure
where I was putting my hand.

Cernan:

We were on our way.

Man:

What a ride, babe, what a ride!

Cernan:

right in the palm of my hands.
If the guidance failed
or started to stray
or went somewhere we didn't like,
or the Ground didn't like,
I could flip a switch
and I could control seven...
over seven and a half million pounds
of rocket thrust with this handle
and fly the thing to the Moon myself.
And I guarantee you, I had practiced it
and trained for it so many times,
I almost dared...
I almost dared her to quit on me.
Every breath she breathed,
I breathed with her.
She was uniquely something special
and what a hell of a ride she gave us.
[Music playing]

Duke:

about shutdown with the Saturn
because you go
from four and a half Gs
to zero just like that.
[Finger snap]
And this big fireball
comes roaring up
the length of that booster...
And just...
Out in front of you
then the second stage fires
and you fly right through the fireball
and you're on your way again.

Capcom:

you are go for staging.

[Music playing]

[Radio chatter]

Capcom:

Houston, thrusters go, all engines.

You're looking good.

Man:

loud and clear, Houston.

[Music playing]

Man:

Tower's gone.

Capcom:

Roger, tower.

Man:

They finally gave me a window to look out!

Collins:

You go up into Earth orbit
and you go around the Earth once
and again that's a busy time,
because you want to make sure
that everything on board
is working properly
before you set sail for the Moon.

Capcom:

Apollo 11, this is Houston.

You are go for TLI. Over.

Man:

Apollo 11, thank you.

Collins:

the word you're go for TLI
and that means you can ignite the motor
and head on off to
the Moon and you do,
and you go, and that's it!

Man:

Ignition.
We confirm ignition and the thrust is go.
Just a second.
Apollo 11, out.
[Music playing]
Get out.
Climb velocity 35,570 feet per second.
Altitude, 177 nautical miles.

Man:

Houston, Apollo 11,
that Saturn gave us a magnificent ride.

Capcom:

we'll pass that on.
And it kind of looks
like you're on your way now.
[Music playing]
In Earth orbit, the horizon's
just slightly curved.
When you head on out to the Moon,
in very short order,
and you get a chance
to look back at the Earth,
that horizon slowly curves
around in upon itself
and all of a sudden,
you're looking at something...
that's very strange
but yet is very, very familiar
because you're beginning
to see the Earth evolve.
I was able to look out the window
to see this incredible sight
of the whole circle of the Earth.
Oceans were crystal blue,
the land was brown,
and the clouds and the
snow were pure white
and that jewel of Earth
was just hung up in
the blackness of space.
The only people that have seen

the whole circle of the Earth
are the 24 guys that went to the Moon.

Mitchell:

When you see Earth like that, it's powerful.
Not... Not even bigger
than that, way up there.

Collins:

and quiet and serene it looked,
how fragile it appeared.
That was the... oddly enough...
the overriding sensation I got
looking at the Earth was,
"My God, that little thing
is so fragile out there."

Mitchell:

the Earth receding,
you get to see the Moon
coming towards you...
And it's awe-inspiring.
And you start to identify, "Hey,
we're going to be up there pretty soon,
and, bye-bye, back there."
[Music playing]

Man:

This transmission is coming to you
approximately halfway
between the Moon and the Earth.
We've been 31 hours,
about 20 minutes into flight.
We have about, uh,
less than 40 hours left to go to the Moon.
We journeyed on our way.
We set up a course,
we took our suits off
at this point, stowed them,
we ate a meal and then
just went into our flight plan.

Cernan:

wasn't Grandma's cooking,

but it was worth it.
We did have hot water
on the command module
and so we took, uh...
a regular little shaving cream
and a razor and had a tissue paper,
And I can't tell you how good,
after three or four days,
it feels to shave.

Duke:

In our checklist,
it turned out that
my little boys and my wife,
had these little
greetings, if you will,
were inserted into the flight plan.
This one was from my son, Charles.
It says, just in crayon,
"From Charles. We love you."
And on the other side,
he sort of had his idea
of what the...
Lunar Module looks like.
And Tom, that was not quite five,
and he wrote "Dear Daddy,
have a safe trip home. Love, Tom."

Collins:

It's not fear, it's worry.
And I think there's a legitimate distinction
between the two.
So, it's not a question
of you're scared all the time,
but it is you're mildly worried all the time,
or at least, I was.
You know, you're not sure all these things
are going to work properly,
and there's a hell of a lot of them
coming in a very fragile daisy-chain
and you don't want any of those links
in the chain to break
because downstream from that broken link,
they're all useless.

So yes, you're worried,
you're concerned.
I always thought of myself as one
of the more fearful astronauts, really.
And when I'd look out of the window
of the spacecraft,
I would think,
"If that window blows out,
I'm going to die in about a second."
There's death right out
there about an inch away.

Capcom:

All your systems are looking good.
Going around the corner.
We'll see you on the other side, over.

Man:

Everything looks okay up here.

Capcom:

Roger, out.

Cernan:

until after we were there.
It's like some of these
science-fiction movies
where you see this big meteorite
just slowly moving.
You could feel the Moon's presence.
You couldn't see it.
We went into darkness,
after being in daylight the whole time
on the way to the Moon.
And then we went into darkness.
And we're in the shadow of the Moon.
[Music playing]

Collins:

When the Sun is shining on the surface
at a very shallow angle,
the craters cast long shadows
and the Moon's surface
seems very inhospitable.

Forbidding, almost.
I did not sense any great invitation
on the part of the Moon
for us to come into its domain.
I sensed more, almost a hostile place...
A... a scary place.
[Music playing]

Bean:

It was tense,
because even though
they'd practiced it in the simulator cockpit,
they didn't always make
a successful landing.
You've got to end up down there
with just the right amount of fuel.
Like, three minutes, you've got to be
at a certain altitude and air speed.
It didn't work...
Sometimes the update
from the landing radar didn't work,
and this was when
we were trying to do it right,
just to find a way to do it right.
This was a big deal.

Capcom:

Okay, it's go there, Capcom,
on the hot fire, okay?
All flight controllers going on the horn.
Go, no-go for undocking!

Various:

Retro? Go! Fido? Go! Guidance? Go!
Control? Go!
Delcom? Go! GNC? Go!
Ecom? Go! Surgeon? Go!
Capcom, we're go
for undocking.

Man:

Apollo 11, Houston,
We're go for undocking, over.

Duke:

the capsule communicator
and it was always an astronaut.
and he was the only
one that was allowed
to speak directly to the crew.
Tell him to go... [Indistinct] over.
And so I was very, very excited
to be part of that historic event.
If... we pulled it off,
was going to be
a tremendous honour.
[Music playing]

Man:

Capcom, we're go to continue PDI.
You're go to...
[Static]
You're go to continue
powered descent.
You're go to
continue powered descent.

Man 1 :

Okay, everybody. Let's hang tight,
look for landing radar.

Man 2:

Flight guns?

Man 1:

[Indistinct]

Man 2:

by 18,000 with this down-track.

Man 1:

Rog.

Aldrin:

was now beginning to receive signals
and being Dr. Rendezvous,
no matter what the checklist said,
I was going to leave

the rendezvous radar on and active
so if we had to abort,
it was on and working
and we could reacquire
mic as soon as possible
if we had to go back up.

Capcom:

Houston, we got data dropout,
you're still looking good.

Duke:

Then we had a computer alarm.
"Computer Problem, 1202".
And well, what's 1202?

Duke:

So when the crew reported this alarm,
my heart sank, really.
"Oh no, we've got a main,
primary computer problem.

Armstrong:

Capcom:

Yeah, and same thing we had.

Aldrin:

is feeding information,
the rendezvous radar is,
and evidently that combination
was not anticipated by the guys at M. I.T.
They're pretty narrow-minded.
You're making a descent,
you need the radar, landing radar!
You're making a rendezvous,
you need the rende...
But you don't need to mix the two.
[Chuckling]
But they didn't think the same way I did.

Duke:

Steve Bales, responded...

Man:

We're go on that flight!

Duke:

to flight control
and I just voiced right up,
"We're go, we're go, Eagle."
And we were go.

Capcom:

you are go for landing, over.

Man:

Roger, understand.
Going for landing, 3000 feet.
Look out for alarm: 1201.

Capcom:

Man:

Roger, 1201.
Same type, we're go, flight.
- Okay, we're go.
- We're go.
Same type, we're go.

Man:

Roger.

Capcom:

Descent, two fuel only.

Man:

They didn't want to say critical.

Collins:

And then it seemed like Neil
was having a difficult time
finding a suitable spot to put it down
and I got a little worried then
because they didn't have
a lot of extra fuel.

Man:

I think we better be quiet, Mike.

Man 2:

Capcom:

Okay, the only call-outs from now on will be fuel.

Duke:

was carrying them into a big boulder field
and it wasn't suitable to land.

So we noticed the trajectory level off
and he just started
flying almost horizontal
across the Moon at a high rate of speed.

One of the worst things
you can do for gas
is stop your rate of descent
because then you have to take time
flying level,
then you have to get
your rate of descent built up again.

All that takes gas, okay?

So when he levelled off, I thought,
"I wonder if he's going to make it."

If... If there was a
boulder field and a crater
that we wanted to avoid,
there are four things you can do.

You can land short,
you can land left, right, or land long.

All right, to land short,
you've got to pitch up like this
and you lose sight
of where you're going.

And... Either left or right
is also a pretty drastic manoeuvre.

The easiest thing to do
is to just pitch forward a little bit
and fly over and land long.

Some of these boulders
were the size of Volkswagens
and you don't want to land
with one gear on top of one
and one gear down in a hole.

That would not have been good.
So, it was a little... Iffy
right there at the very end.
[Radio chatter]
We had two calls
that we were to give from mission control.
The first was "Eagle, 60 seconds",
that meant he got
and at the end of that 60 seconds,
by mission rule, I would call abort.

Bean:

that he wasn't going to land by then
because I think he
would have dropped it in
from wherever the engine quit.
He wasn't coming home and saying,
"I got low on fuel
so I decided to abandon it."
I don't think any
astronaut would do that,
that wouldn't be the right stuff!

Man:

Three and a half. 47 forward.

Aldrin:

Neil thinks things through thoroughly
and then does what he thinks is right
and usually it's the right thing to do.
I don't think anybody can come close
to touching the skills that he had.

Various:

Duke:

The tension mounted in mission control
and it was like you could feel it.
You couldn't see it,
but you could sense the tension.
And it was...
I remember dead silence.
[Ticking]

Man:

Three feet down, two and a half.
Picking up some dust.

Man:

Three feet, two and a half down.
[Radio chatter]

Man:

Just into the right a little.

Capcom:

Man:

Contact light.
Okay, engines stop.
[Indistinct]
Descent.
Remote control, both on.
Descent engine Command override off.
Engine arm off.
We've had shut down.

Capcom:

We copy you down, Eagle.
Okay, everybody, t-1,
stand by for t-1.

Armstrong:

Tranquillity Base here.
The Eagle has landed!

Duke:

Roger, twang... Tranquillity,
We copy you on the ground.
You've got a bunch of
guys about to turn blue.
We're breathing again,
thanks a lot.

Armstrong:

Thank you.
I was so excited,
I-I couldn't even get

out "Tranquillity".

It was "twang-quillity"

or something like that.

[Music playing]

Whew! Boy!

[Chuckle]

Stadium announcer:

Special announcement!

You will be happy to know

that the Apollo 11 has landed safely.

[Roaring cheer]

[Speaking foreign language]

[Music playing]

I think it's just wonderful

to be on Earth and to live

what's going on on the Moon.

It's marvellous!

And as a French woman,

how do you think about it?

Oh, I think it's wonderful.

I always trusted America

and I knew they couldn't fail.

I think we might have

gone and had a beer.

But I...

So we were real happy and it was...

Real pleased we'd done it

and so it was a great feeling

of accomplishment and pride,

For the... President Kennedy

and for the nation,

we did what we said we were going to do.

Capcom:

Roger. We read you five-by, Columbia.

He has landed.

Tranquillity Base.

Eagle is at

Tranquillity, over.

Collins:

Yeah, I heard the whole thing!

Capcom:

Well, it was a good show.

Collins:

Fantastic.

Collins:

I discovered later
that I was described as
the loneliest man ever
in the universe or something,
which really is a lot of baloney.
I mean, I...
I had mission control
yakking in my ear half the time.

Capcom:

Columbia, Houston. How did it go? Over.

Collins:

Listen, babe,
everything is going just swimmingly,
it's beautiful.

Collins:

I rather enjoyed it.
I certainly was aware of the fact
that I was by myself,
particularly when I was over
on the back side of the Moon.
You know, I can remember
thinking, "God, you look over there
and there's 3 billion people,
plus two, somewhere down there,
and then over here there's one plus...
God only knows what!"
So, I... I know I felt that strongly,
but I didn't feel it as loneliness
and I certainly didn't feel it as fear,
I felt it as awareness,
almost a feeling of exaltation.
I... I liked it.
It was a good feeling.
Everything was going well
with the command module,

I had my happy little home,
I had the bright lights on.
Everything was fine. I enjoyed that time.
They're going to probably open
the hatch of the Lunar Module

around 9:

Eastern Daylight time,
just two hours from now
and shortly after that,
of Wapakoneta, Ohio,
the Commander of this
successful Moon mission
will begin to step down the nine steps
of the Lunar landing Module
to the surface of the Moon itself.
And what a moment that will be!

Capcom:

And we're getting a picture on the TV.
There's a great deal of contrast in it
and currently,
it's upside down on our monitor
but we can make out a fair amount of detail.

Scott:

of all the science-fiction writers
who ever wrote about going to the Moon,
I don't believe any of them ever dreamed
about the world watching it on television.
[Mixed chatter]

Capcom:

Neil, this is Houston,
loud and clear.
Break, break, Buzz, this is Houston,
Uh, radio check, and
verify TV circuit breaker.

Aldrin:

Roger, TV circuit breaker's in.
[Music playing]

Capcom:

Okay, Neil,
we can see you coming
down the ladder now.

Scott:

everybody I see, meet,
even people who were children,
tiny babies at the time,
watched Neil put his
first step on the Moon,
the whole world participated.

Newsreader:

... Que l'homme pour la premiere fois,
prenne pied sur la lune.
Les Russes sont loin... [Indistinct]
naturellement.
[Music playing]

Armstrong:

Stand by.
[Music playing]
I'm at the foot of the ladder.
The L.M. footpads are only, uh...
Depressed in the surface about...
one or two inches,
although the surface appears to be
very, very fine-grained
as you get close to it.
It's almost like a powder down there.
It's very fine.
Okay, I'm going to step off the L.M. now.
[Music playing]
That's one small step for Man...
One giant leap for Mankind.

Newsreader:

"That's one small step for Man,
One giant leap for Mankind."
[Mixed chatter]

Scott:

It was like Neil,
but deeper than I thought

that he would come up with.

I wouldn't have had the
self-control to do that.

I'd have...

To me, I'd have been
jumping up and down,

"Yahoo!" You know?

"Man, I'm here!"

It was... That's the kind of response
that I think I would have had.

But he was very, very controlled
and those words came out
and they were very appropriate
and... Perfect.

Capcom:

That looks beautiful from here, Neil.

Armstrong:

It has a stark beauty all its own,
it's like much of the high desert
of the United States.

It's different

but it's very pretty out here.

We had it in our flight plan
that we'd take the first 10-15 seconds
down at the bottom of the ladder,
sort of hold on to the
edge of the landing gear
and just sort of check
our stability and so forth.

Aldrin:

Okay, I'm on the top steps
and it's a very simple
matter to hop down
from one step to the next.

Aldrin:

So that's when I decided
to take that period of time to, ah...

[Clears throat]

To...

Take care of a bodily function

of slightly filling up the urine bag,
so that I wouldn't be troubled
with having to do that later on.

Armstrong:

There you go.

So, anyway, everybody has
their firsts on the Moon.

[Chuckling]

And that one hasn't been
disputed by anybody.

[Music playing]

Bean:

that I noticed they made
prior to their flight
was they'd come to them
about a month ahead of time,
as I remember.

And they said to them,
"You're going to plant
the American flag."

So, we got the flag out
and put it in the ground
and we'd never really
practiced that one before.

[Music playing]

Aldrin:

Here we were on the surface
and I knew this was what
people were watching.
More people were watching us
than had ever watched two human beings
before in history
and yet we're further away,
not just in distance
but in things we've got to do
to get back home.

We've got to do some difficult things
to get out of this desolate place
and get back home again.

[Radio chatter]

Capcom:

Thank you, 13.
when you get a chance.
We'd like you to stir up your cryo tanks.

Man:

Stand by.
[Rumble/static]
When the explosion occurred, of course,
I didn't know what happened.

Lovell:

Houston, we've had a problem.

Capcom:

Stand by 13, we're looking at it.

Lovell:

We saw the oxygen go to zero
And then come up to the top
and then went down to zero again.
We were in serious trouble.
I thought when I saw
that oxygen system leaking down,
I figured we'd lost them.
I really did.
I didn't think we'd make it.

Lovell:

We were as calm as could be.
We didn't panic.
Uh, if we did,
we'd still be up there,
or we could have
bounced off the walls for ten minutes
and be back where we started from.
So the first thing
that went through our mind was:
"What do we have to work with
to get home? "
And of course,
we had the Lunar Module.
It was like, abandon ship,
get into the lifeboat

and we'll come back in the lifeboat.

Capcom:

We figure we've got about 15 minutes
worth of power left
in the Command Module
so we want you to start
getting over in the L.M.,
and getting some power in it.
And you ready to copy your procedure?

Man:

Okay.
I worked on the problem
of using the Lunar Module
as the prime propulsion vehicle,
as a tugboat.
and how they could fly it manually,
stick and rudder stuff,
if they'd lost the prime guidance system.

Duke:

John and I, with others,
had worked on this manoeuvre
to get them back
on what was called a
free return trajectory,
so they would come back
and come right back
into Earth's atmosphere
on the correct angle and velocity.

Man:

from scheduled time of ignition.

Lovell:

And so we used the Earth's terminator
to figure out our attitude,
we had to get the Earth in the window
of the Lunar Module.

Man:

Confirmed ignition.

Lovell:

I knew when that engine went on,
without an autopilot, I'd never be able
to keep the Earth in the window by myself,
so Fred-O kept the Earth
from going sideways,
I kept it from going up and down...
I had to learn to...
manoeuvre all over again
in a very short period of time.
But you'd be surprised
how quickly you learn.

Capcom:

Houston, you're looking good.

Duke:

"We ain't going to make it"
to, "If we don't foul up
and they don't foul up,
and we don't have any other disaster,
we're going to make it."
[Applause/whistling]

Bean:

I'm convinced.
And that crew,
to keep calm and responsive
and do things right the first time,
that's important, it was just great.
They were great.
It was a case of survival
and certainly landing on the Moon
and surviving to see the next sunrise
are two different things.
And it wasn't until I got
comfortably back on Earth
that I became very much disappointed
in not making a landing on the Moon.
[Music playing]

Man:

Boy, that's a big mountain
when you're down here

looking up, isn't it?

Scott:

We all of a sudden realized
that we were below the
tops of the mountains.

Man:

I can't believe it. Amazing!

Bean:

And then I look out at the horizon
and I thought to myself,
"God, I hope Pete doesn't land over there
because we'll tip over."

Man:

Here comes the shadow.
We were blowing lunar dust everywhere.
It was like landing through the fog.

Man:

Well, we is here!
Man, is we here!
How's that look?

Cernan:

And if there's any one moment
in my whole flight when time stood still,
it was those first few seconds
when we touched down
and everything came to a screeching halt.
And there we were.
[Music playing]

Mitchell:

The first feelings were,
"Wow, this is, uh...
What am I doing here?
This is a different world!"
And, uh, there's a part of it of...
"You dumb ass... You've really got yourself
into something here!"

Bean:

on the Moon and you stop,
and you get out, nobody's out there.
This little L.M. and then
the two of you, you're it,
on this whole big place.
And that's a weird feeling,
it's a weird feeling to be...
Two people and that's it.

Man:

Oh, my golly. Unbelievable!
Unbelievable.
But is it bright in the Sun.
Oh, look at that.
Isn't that something?
We're up on a slope, Joe,
and we're looking back
down into the valley.
It's beautiful.
That is spectacular.
[Music playing]
Dad, this is really
a rock and rolling ride, isn't it?
Never been on a ride like this before.

Schmitt:

The Rover was very useful,
very comfortable ride for the most part,
but any time you hit
a bump in one-sixth gravity,
you're going to be off the surface
for a little ways.

Cernan:

downhill in a Rover.
I think it was
I think even Gene Cernan
with all his test pilot macho
felt that that was a little fast!

Man:

There are a lot of craters
and it's just sporty driving.

I've just got to keep my eye
on the road every second.
What really saves you up there
is there's nobody coming down the road
from the other way.

Man:

Oh, look at this baby climb the hill.
[Music playing]

Duke:

that I had was the whole time
was the feeling of awe.
The Moon was the most spectacularly
beautiful desert you can ever imagine.
Unspoiled, untouched.
It had a vibrancy about it
and the contrast between the Moon
and the black sky was so vivid and...
It just made this impression, you know,
of excitement and wonder.

Schmitt:

We were true scientific explorers.
We were looking at things
that human beings
had never seen before
or if they had seen them,
they weren't thinking about them
in terms of understanding our Earth
and our solar system
and indeed the universe.
And that's what we were.
That's what we were doing.
We were scientific explorers
right from the moment
we stepped out of the spacecraft.

Man 1:

Roger, Dave. Let's do a little geology.

Man 2:

Going to document the area first here, Joe.

Man 1:

If you come around there,
there's a rock in the near field on this rim...
I'd like you to pick it up as a ground sample.
I say, John, just look at that footprint.
Look underneath that [Indistinct]
when you picked that up.
...a centimetre or so under, it's white!
Absolutely white right here.

Man 2:

Gee, you got a bag?
All set.
Okay, I'm going to get the...
shadowed material...

Man 1:

Look, this is a real beauty!
[Music playing]

Collins:

I-I didn't have any great feeling of...
"Oh, we've done it!"
I mean, we've done part of it, but, uh...
I was a lot more worried, I guess,
about getting them up off the Moon
than I was about getting
them down onto the Moon.
The motor on the Lunar Module
was one motor
and if something went wrong with it,
you know, they were dead men,
there was no other way
for them to leave.

Announcer:

Ladies and gentlemen,
the President of the United States.
Good evening,
my fellow Americans.
Tonight, I want to talk to you
on a subject of deep concern
to all Americans
and to many people

in all parts of the world.

Collins:

"Fate has ordained
that the men who went to the Moon
to explore in peace
will stay on the Moon to rest in peace.
These brave men,
Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin,
know that there is no hope
for their recovery,
but they also know that
there is hope for Mankind In their sacrifice."
I mean, this is, you know...
What a public relations
person would have to say.

Aldrin:

Nine, eight, seven, six, five...
Port stage, engine arm, ascent, proceed.
[Music playing]
Beautiful.

Armstrong:

Pitchover.

Aldrin:

Very smooth.
Balance couple, off.
Very quiet ride.

Capcom:

manual start override.

Man:

Capcom:

one minute. You are looking good.

Collins:

Oh God, look... It's beautiful.
It's a beautiful little thing,
you see the L.M., you know,
a little golden bug down

there among the craters
and it gets slowly bigger and bigger.
They seem to be, you
know, like riding rails,
they were very precise.
And then it got right up next to me
and then it was my job, as before,
to make the connection
between the two vehicles.

[Music playing]

Finally, they got back
into the command module
and I grabbed Buzz by both ears
and I was going to kiss
him on the forehead,
I can remember that.
and I got him to right about here
and I said, "That's not a very...
good thing to do somehow,"
so I forgot,
whether I clapped him on the back
or shook his hand or did something.
And again, you don't have time
to sit around and reminisce
because you've got T. E.L. coming up
in another... little while,
so you've got to get ready for that
and come home.

[Music playing]

Mitchell:

was on the way home.
In my cockpit window, every two minutes,
the Earth, the Moon, the Sun
and a whole 360 degree
panorama of the heavens.
And that was a powerful,
overwhelming experience.
And suddenly I realized
that the molecules of my body
and the molecules of the spacecraft
and the molecules in the bodies
of my partners
were prototyped and manufactured

in some ancient generation of stars.
And that was an overwhelming sense
of oneness, of connectedness.
It wasn't them and us,
it was, "that's me, that's all of it,
it's one thing."
And it was accompanied by an ecstasy,
a sense of, "oh my God. wow, yes,"
an insight, an epiphany.
[Music playing]

Duke:

Re-entry is very critical on Apollo.
The last time I looked at my computer,
we were accelerating
through 39,000 feet per second,
which is... uh, translates
to over 26,000 miles an hour.
A rifle bullet only
goes 2000 miles an hour.

Collins:

You are literally on fire.
Your heat shield is on fire
and it's streaming...
Its fragments are
streaming out behind you.
It's like being inside a gigantic light bulb.

Duke:

The re-entry started at 400,000 feet,
and by the time you've got to 90,000 feet,
you're basically coming
straight down, freefall.

Collins:

in the daisy chain is the...
is, well, there... Actually,
I guess I'd have to say
there may be two more,
but, uh... the important one
is that the parachutes open.

[Explosion]

Mains coming out,

huge explosion again
and these three
chutes come out.
[Music playing]

Collins:

white spheres of reassurance.
That was the end.
That was the last of the daisy....
Well, then we had to get out.
I can remember the beautiful water.
You know, we were out in the deep
ocean in the Pacific.
It was such a startling violet colour.
I remember looking at
the ocean and admiring,
"Nice ocean you got here,
planet Earth."

[Music playing]

To me, the marvel of it
is that it all worked like clockwork,
I almost said like magic.
There might be a little magic mixed up
in the back of that big clock somewhere...
Because everything worked
as it was supposed to.
Nobody messed up.
Even I didn't make mistakes.

[Music playing]

Aldrin:

who was on the first lunar landing
was certainly going to be propelled
into the public view in an enormous way.
That awareness was troublesome
and interfered during the mission.
But it's nothing like what happens
after the mission
and for the rest of your life.
You are the person now,
not just an average fighter pilot,
who did this and that pretty well,
but, "This guy walked on the Moon."
And now I have to sort of uphold that image

for the rest of my life, no matter what I do.

Bean:

about Neil Armstrong.
I think it's wonderful
that he's been the first man on the Moon.
Even though
he's somewhat reclusive,
then that helps to preserve the image.
That's a tough role.
I'm glad... I'd love to do that,
but I'd hate to try to fill that role.
That's a tough role.
Yeah... Boy!
[Music playing]

Collins:

After the flight of Apollo 11,
the three of us went
on an around-the-world trip.
Wherever we went,
people, instead of saying,
"Well, you Americans did it,"
Everywhere, they said, "We did it.
We Humankind, we the Human race,
we, people, did it."
And, I had never heard of, um...
people in different countries
use this word "We, we, we"
as emphatically as we were hearing
from Europeans, Asians, Africans...
Wherever we went,
it was, "We finally did it!"
And I thought that
was a wonderful thing.
Ephemeral, but wonderful.
[Cheering]

Cernan:

literally standing on a plateau
somewhere out there in space,
a plateau that science and technology
had allowed me to get to.
But now, what I was seeing

and even more important,
what I was feeling at
that moment in time,
science and technology
had no answers for.
Literally no answers,
because there I was
and there you are...
there you are,
the Earth, dynamic, overwhelming
and I felt that the world...
there's just too much purpose,
too much logic
and it was just too beautiful
to have happened by accident.
There has to be
somebody bigger than you
and bigger than me
and I mean this in a spiritual sense
not a religious sense.
There has to be
a creator of the universe
who stands above the religions
that we ourselves create to govern our lives.
[Music playing]

Duke:

to go to a Bible study at a tennis club.
And after that weekend, I said to Jesus,
I said, "I give you my life
and if you're real, come into my life."
And I believe and he did and I had...
I had this sense of peace
that was... that was hard to describe.
It was so dramatic
that we started sharing our story.
I say, my walk
on the Moon lasted three days
and it was a great adventure,
but my walk with God lasts forever.

Collins:

I think if you do something
that's drastically different

like flying to the Moon
and coming back again,
everyone tells you how important it is,
how wonderful it is
and how important,
important, important.
Then by comparison a lot of other things
that used to seem important
don't seem quite as much so.
And I'm not saying that I'm able to face life
with greater equanimity
because I've flown to the Moon, but I try to.
And maybe some of our
terrestrial squabbles
don't seem as important
after having flown to the Moon
than they did before.

Lovell:

We learned a lot about the Moon
but what we really learned
was about the Earth.
The fact that just from
the distance of the Moon
you could put your thumb up,
and you can hide the
Earth behind your thumb.
Everything that you have ever known...
Your loved ones, your business,
the problems of the Earth itself,
all behind your thumb.
And how insignificant we really all are.
But then how fortunate we are
to have this body
and to be able to enjoy living here
amongst the beauty of the Earth itself.

Scott:

It truly is an oasis
and we don't take very good care of it.
And I think the elevation of that awareness
is a real contribution to, you know,
saving the Earth, if you will.

Young:

since we started flying in Gemini.
There's a lot of things like urban pollution
and you can see that when you hit orbit now.
You can see the big cities
all have their own set of unique atmospheres,
They really do.
We ought to be looking out for our kids
and our grandkids
and what are we worried about?
The price of a gallon of gasoline,
you know, in the United States,
they're worried about \$3 a gallon gas.
I said, that's awful, you know?

Bean:

Since that time,
I have not complained
about the weather one single time.
I'm glad there is weather.
I've not complained about traffic,
I'm glad there's people around.
One of the things that I did when I got home,
I went down to shopping centres
and I'd just go around there,
get an ice cream cone or something
and just watch the people go by
and think, "Boy, we're lucky to be here,
why do people complain about the Earth? "
We are living in the Garden of Eden!

Collins:

As I look back, if I use one word,
I would use the word "luck".
I just feel very lucky.
You know, Neil Armstrong
was born in 1930,
Buzz Aldrin was born in 1930,
Mike Collins was born in 1930.
I mean how lucky can you get?
We just happened along at the right time.
I feel blessed every single day.
Not a day goes by
that I don't think, "This is great,

this was wonderful..."

Somebody had to go
and they happened to pick me,
so it is great.

[Music playing]

You know, some of the tabloids
are saying that we did this
In a hanger in Arizona.
Maybe that would have been a good idea!

I don't know how I would...
grab someone by the collar
who didn't believe,
and shake them
and somehow change their mind.
Any significant event in history,
somebody's had a conspiracy theory
one way or the other.

I don't know two Americans
who have a fantastic secret
without one of them
blurting it out to the Press!

Can you imagine thousands of people
able to keep this secret?

We've been to the Moon nine times.
I mean, why did we fake it nine times...
If we faked it?

Truth needs no defence.

Nobody, nobody...

Can ever take those footsteps
I made on the surface of the Moon away from me.

[Music playing]