

Rocket Men

by Robert Kurson

Discussion Questions

1. What was your initial reaction to the book? Did it hook you immediately, or did it take some time to get into?
2. The book includes a large amount of biographical information about each of the astronauts. Do you think this distracted or added to the story?
3. The book explores the experiences of the wives of the astronauts? Did their actions seem plausible? Why or why not?
4. Which person did you relate to the most, and what was it about them that you connected with?
5. Were the political and cultural events happening in the country during the same timeframe important to the story?
6. The Apollo 8 mission is the focus of this story. Do you think the Apollo 11 mission (where astronauts first walked on the moon) overshadowed the importance of the Apollo 8 mission?
7. Did the book change your opinion or perspective about NASA or the space program, and its future? Do you feel differently now that you've read the book?
8. As a non-fiction book, did the writing style and structure of the book create the momentum to hold your attention? Why or why not?
9. Do you think the author was trying to communicate a point of view or opinion in his handling of the topic?
10. What was your favorite moment in the book?
11. Share a favorite quote or passage from the book. Why did this quote stand out for you?
12. If the author were to write another book on any aspect or character of *Rocket Men*, what would it be?
13. What surprised you most when reading the book?
14. If you could ask the author of this book one question, what would it be?