Contents

INTRODUCTION Space, The Final Frontier	1
ONE From Fire Arrows to Neil Armstrong The History of Space Exploration	g
TWO Orbital Truck The Space Shuttle	31
THREE A Nice Place to Visit Earth	45
FOUR Star Wars The Strategic Defense Initiative	51
FIVE Captain Kirk, Here We Come! Humans vs. Robots in Space	69
SIX A Room with a View Space Stations	81

SEVEN The Man and Woman in the Moon A Lunar Base	97
EIGHT Who Stole the Canals? Mars	107
NINE Dinosaur Killers? Asteroids and Comets	127
TEN Near Neighbors The Inner Solar System	137
ELEVEN Giant Worlds The Outer Planets	149
TWELVE Glimpsing Infinity The Universe	167
THIRTEEN How to Build a Starship Interstellar Travel	185
FOURTEEN In Search of E.T. The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence	193
FIFTEEN Footsteps into the Universe The Future	207
REFERENCES	223
INDEX	229

