

rocket boys by homer hickam

Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam: A Journey of Dreams, Determination, and Discovery

rocket boys by homer hickam is more than just a memoir; it's a heartfelt narrative about passion, perseverance, and the pursuit of knowledge against all odds. This compelling book takes readers on an inspiring ride through the life of a young boy growing up in a coal mining town, who dreams of building rockets and reaching for the stars. Hickam's story resonates deeply with anyone who has ever dared to dream beyond their circumstances.

The Story Behind Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam

Rocket Boys is a semi-autobiographical account of Homer Hickam Jr.'s youth in Coalwood, West Virginia, during the late 1950s. The book chronicles his fascination with rocketry, sparked by the launch of Sputnik, and how this interest shaped his life. Despite being surrounded by a community entrenched in the coal mining industry, Homer and his friends, known as the "Rocket Boys," embarked on an ambitious journey to build and launch rockets.

Hickam's story is not just about science or engineering; it's about family dynamics, friendship, and the challenges of growing up in a small town with limited opportunities. The memoir beautifully captures the tension between tradition and innovation, highlighting the importance of following one's passion even when the odds seem stacked against you.

The Setting: Coalwood, West Virginia

Understanding the backdrop of Coalwood is essential to fully appreciate the narrative. Coalwood was a company town dominated by coal mining, where most families, including Hickam's, relied on the mine for their livelihood. The town's identity was tied to the mine, and the prospect of leaving this life was often met with skepticism or resistance.

This setting adds layers of complexity to the story. Homer's father, the mine superintendent, represents the traditional path, expecting his son to follow in his footsteps. However, Homer's dream of rocketry challenges these expectations, creating a poignant conflict that many readers find relatable.

The Themes Explored in Rocket Boys

Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam is rich with themes that extend beyond the realm

of rocketry and science. These themes contribute to the book's lasting appeal and relevance.

Dreams and Ambition

At its core, *Rocket Boys* is a celebration of dreams and the relentless ambition to pursue them. Homer's journey illustrates that passion can flourish even in the most unlikely environments. The memoir encourages readers to nurture their interests and not be confined by societal or familial expectations.

Education and Self-Improvement

Hickam's story underscores the transformative power of education. The *Rocket Boys*' experiments are not just hobbies; they require learning physics, chemistry, and engineering principles. This focus on self-education is a powerful reminder that curiosity and dedication can open doors to new possibilities.

Friendship and Teamwork

The camaraderie among the *Rocket Boys* is a vital part of the narrative. Their collaboration, mutual support, and shared enthusiasm highlight how teamwork can amplify individual talents and help overcome obstacles.

Overcoming Adversity

The challenges faced by Homer and his friends—from technical failures to community skepticism—serve as compelling lessons in resilience. *Rocket Boys* teaches that setbacks are part of the journey and can be stepping stones to success.

Impact and Legacy of *Rocket Boys* by Homer Hickam

Since its publication, *Rocket Boys* has inspired countless readers and has had a significant cultural impact. The book's relatable storytelling and universal themes have made it a staple in educational settings and among enthusiasts of space exploration and personal growth.

Adaptations and Popularity

One of the most notable achievements of *Rocket Boys* is its adaptation into the 1999 film “October Sky,” which brought Hickam’s story to an even broader audience. The movie captures the spirit of the memoir and has been praised for its inspirational message.

The book’s popularity has also led to sequels and related works by Hickam, expanding on his experiences and the lives of the *Rocket Boys*. These writings continue to motivate readers interested in science, engineering, and overcoming life’s challenges.

Educational Influence

Rocket Boys frequently appears in school curriculums as a tool to engage students with science and history. Teachers often use it to illustrate the practical applications of physics and chemistry, as well as to discuss themes of determination and goal-setting.

For students passionate about STEM, the memoir offers a relatable role model and a glimpse into the excitement of scientific discovery. It also encourages critical thinking and problem-solving skills through the detailed descriptions of the boys’ experiments.

Why *Rocket Boys* by Homer Hickam Still Matters Today

In an era dominated by rapid technological advancements and space exploration milestones, *Rocket Boys* remains profoundly relevant. The book’s core message—that curiosity, persistence, and learning can lead to extraordinary achievements—aligns perfectly with today’s educational and inspirational needs.

The memoir also serves as a reminder of the human stories behind scientific progress. It shows that innovation often starts with simple curiosity and the courage to try, fail, and try again.

Lessons for Aspiring Innovators

For anyone interested in science, engineering, or innovation, *Rocket Boys* offers several valuable lessons:

- **Start small and learn continuously:** The *Rocket Boys* began with homemade

rockets, learning from each attempt.

- **Build a support network:** Collaboration and encouragement from friends, family, and mentors proved crucial.
- **Embrace failure:** Mistakes were stepping stones rather than roadblocks.
- **Stay passionate:** Genuine interest fuels perseverance through challenges.

The Role of Passion in Career Development

Homer Hickam's journey illustrates how following your passion can shape your career path. Despite initial doubts and setbacks, his love for rocketry eventually led him to a successful career as a NASA engineer and author. This trajectory emphasizes the importance of aligning personal interests with professional goals.

Exploring the Writing Style and Narrative Technique

Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam is written in a straightforward yet evocative style that captures the innocence and intensity of youth. Hickam's narrative voice is warm and accessible, making complex scientific concepts understandable without diluting their significance.

The memoir's pacing balances technical descriptions with personal and emotional moments, creating a well-rounded reading experience. Readers can easily connect with the characters and feel the palpable excitement of each rocket launch.

Use of Real-Life Characters and Events

One of the strengths of Rocket Boys is its grounding in real-life experiences. The characters are based on actual people, and the events described happened during Hickam's adolescence. This authenticity adds depth and credibility to the story, making the successes and struggles more impactful.

Incorporation of Historical Context

The backdrop of the Cold War and the Space Race adds an intriguing historical

dimension to the memoir. The launch of Sputnik acts as a catalyst for the boys' rocket-building endeavors, linking their personal story to a significant global event. This context enriches the narrative and helps readers understand the broader significance of the boys' achievements.

Tips for Readers Interested in Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam

If you're planning to dive into *Rocket Boys*, here are some ways to enhance your reading experience:

- **Research the Space Race:** Understanding the historical period deepens appreciation for the challenges and excitement of the era.
- **Explore basic rocketry principles:** Familiarizing yourself with simple physics concepts can make the technical parts more engaging.
- **Reflect on personal dreams:** Consider how the themes of ambition and perseverance relate to your own goals.
- **Discuss with others:** Sharing insights with friends or in book clubs can uncover new perspectives.

Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam is not just a book about rockets; it's a testament to the power of dreams and hard work. Its enduring popularity and motivational message make it a must-read for those who believe in the limitless potential of human curiosity and determination.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'Rocket Boys' by Homer Hickam?

The main theme of 'Rocket Boys' is the pursuit of dreams and overcoming obstacles through perseverance, education, and passion, as it tells the story of a young boy's journey to build rockets despite various challenges.

Who is the protagonist in 'Rocket Boys' and what is his goal?

The protagonist is Homer Hickam Jr., a teenage boy from a coal mining town who aspires to build rockets and escape the limitations of his environment by

pursuing a career in science and engineering.

How does 'Rocket Boys' reflect the historical context of the 1950s?

'Rocket Boys' is set in the 1950s during the Cold War and the Space Race, reflecting the era's fascination with rocketry and space exploration, as well as the social and economic conditions of a mining town in West Virginia.

What role does education play in 'Rocket Boys'?

Education is portrayed as a crucial tool for personal growth and achieving dreams in 'Rocket Boys.' Homer and his friends rely on their school science teachers and self-study to learn about rocketry and physics.

How does Homer Hickam's relationship with his father influence the story?

Homer's father is a coal miner who initially disapproves of Homer's interest in rockets, wanting him to follow in his footsteps. This conflict adds emotional depth and highlights the generational and cultural challenges Homer faces.

What inspired Homer Hickam to write 'Rocket Boys'?

Homer Hickam was inspired to write 'Rocket Boys' as a memoir of his teenage years building rockets in Coalwood, West Virginia, aiming to share his experiences and inspire others to pursue their passions despite adversity.

How does 'Rocket Boys' address the theme of friendship?

The book emphasizes the importance of friendship through the support and collaboration between Homer and his friends, who work together on their rocket projects and encourage each other through setbacks.

What impact has 'Rocket Boys' had culturally or educationally?

'Rocket Boys' has inspired many readers, especially young people, to take an interest in science and engineering. It has been used in educational settings to encourage STEM learning and was also adapted into the successful film 'October Sky.'

Additional Resources

Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam: A Detailed Exploration of a Memoir That Ignited Dreams

rocket boys by homer hickam stands as a compelling memoir that not only chronicles the author's youthful fascination with rocketry but also paints a vivid portrait of perseverance, ambition, and the pursuit of scientific knowledge against the odds. Published in 1998, this autobiographical work captures the unique cultural and historical backdrop of a small coal-mining town in West Virginia during the late 1950s, a period marked by the fervor of the Space Race. The book's enduring popularity is a testament to its rich narrative, blending technical ingenuity with heartfelt coming-of-age storytelling.

In-depth Analysis of Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam

Homer Hickam's *Rocket Boys* is more than just a memoir about amateur rocketry; it is an exploration of dreams nurtured in an environment seemingly inhospitable to such ambitions. The narrative follows Hickam and his friends, collectively dubbed the "Rocket Boys," as they experiment with homemade rockets, striving to win the National Science Fair and escape the socioeconomic constraints of their Appalachian hometown. The story is deeply rooted in themes of innovation, friendship, family dynamics, and resilience.

One of the distinctive features of *Rocket Boys* by Homer Hickam is its authentic depiction of mid-20th-century American life. The memoir captures the tension between traditional expectations—such as following in the footsteps of coal miners—and the new technological frontiers represented by the burgeoning space program. This contrast provides a rich context that enhances the readers' understanding of the characters' motivations and struggles.

Thematic Elements and Narrative Style

Hickam employs a straightforward yet evocative prose style that balances technical details about rocketry with emotional depth. This approach allows readers unfamiliar with rocket science to engage with the material without feeling overwhelmed. The memoir's themes extend beyond science and technology, delving into issues such as mentorship, community, and the pursuit of one's identity.

A notable aspect of the book is its portrayal of the mentor-student relationship between Hickam and his high school teacher, Miss Riley. This dynamic underscores the importance of guidance and encouragement in fostering

scientific curiosity. Additionally, family relationships—particularly the complex bond between Hickam and his father—are integral to the narrative, providing a nuanced look at expectations and support within a working-class family.

Comparisons with Other Memoirs and Space-related Literature

In the landscape of space-related memoirs, *Rocket Boys* distinguishes itself by focusing on grassroots-level experimentation rather than professional astronautics. Unlike autobiographies of astronauts or engineers who worked directly for NASA, Hickam's story offers a ground-up perspective. This makes it relatable to readers interested in science but who may not have access to formal scientific training.

Comparatively, the memoir shares common ground with books like Tracy Kidder's *The Soul of a New Machine*, which also explores the human side of technological innovation. However, Hickam's work is less about corporate or institutional challenges and more about youthful determination and self-education. This grassroots approach has resonated with educators and students alike, making *Rocket Boys* a popular choice for STEM-related curricula.

Impact and Legacy of *Rocket Boys* by Homer Hickam

The cultural and educational impact of *Rocket Boys* by Homer Hickam is significant. The memoir was adapted into the 1999 film *October Sky*, which brought the story to an even wider audience. This adaptation helped cement the book's role as a source of inspiration for young people interested in science and engineering careers.

Educational institutions have frequently used *Rocket Boys* as a motivational text to illustrate the importance of curiosity, persistence, and problem-solving. The book's detailed recounting of rocket design and experimentation provides practical insights for amateur scientists and hobbyists.

Strengths and Limitations

- **Strengths:** The memoir's engaging storytelling combined with accurate scientific explanations makes complex topics accessible. The emotional sincerity and cultural context enrich the narrative, offering multiple layers of meaning.

- **Limitations:** Some readers may find the pacing uneven, particularly when technical descriptions dominate certain sections. Additionally, the memoir's focus on a specific time and place might limit its universal appeal for those less interested in historical settings or autobiographical works.

Relevance to Contemporary Readers

In an era where STEM education is increasingly emphasized, *Rocket Boys* remains relevant as it exemplifies how passion and resourcefulness can overcome socioeconomic barriers. The memoir encourages a mindset that values experimentation and learning from failure—qualities essential in today's innovation-driven society.

Moreover, the narrative's exploration of community support and mentorship is particularly pertinent. In modern educational contexts, fostering such environments can inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers, making Hickam's story a valuable reference point.

The memoir's ongoing popularity on platforms such as Goodreads and Amazon reflects its continued resonance among readers of diverse backgrounds. Its influence extends beyond literature, often cited in discussions about educational reform and youth engagement in science.

Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam endures as a powerful testament to the human spirit's capacity to dream beyond immediate circumstances. Its blend of technical curiosity and heartfelt storytelling offers a unique window into a pivotal moment in American history and the universal quest for knowledge.

[Rocket Boys By Homer Hickam](#)

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rocket boys by homer hickam: *Michael-Che Koch liest Homer Hickam, Rocket boys* Homer Hadley Hickam, 2018

rocket boys by homer hickam: *Rocket Boys* Homer H. Hickam, 1998 A memoir of Coalwood,

W. Virginia, where the author learned to build rockets.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *October Sky* Homer Hickam, 1999-02-16 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The “nostalgic and entertaining memoir” (People), originally published as *Rocket Boys*, that inspired the Universal Pictures film. “A message of hope in an age of cynicism. . . . Perhaps we all have something to learn from a half-dozen boys who dared to reject all limitations . . . and resolved to send dreams roaring to the sky.”—The San Diego Union-Tribune It was 1957, the year Sputnik raced across the Appalachian sky, and the small town of Coalwood, West Virginia, was slowly dying. Faced with an uncertain future, Homer Hickam nurtured a dream: to send rockets into outer space. The introspective son of the mine’s superintendent and a mother determined to get him out of Coalwood forever, Homer fell in with a group of misfits who learned not only how to turn scraps of metal into sophisticated rockets but how to sustain their hope in a town that swallowed its men alive. As the boys began to light up the tarry skies with their flaming projectiles and dreams of glory, Coalwood, and the Hickams, would never be the same. With the grace of a natural storyteller, NASA engineer Homer Hickam paints a warm, vivid portrait of the harsh West Virginia mining town of his youth, evoking a time of innocence and promise, when anything was possible. Lush and lyrical, *October Sky* is a uniquely American memoir: A powerful, luminous story of coming of age at the end of the 1950s, of a mother’s love and a father’s fears, and of growing up and getting out.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *Rocket Boys* Homer H. Hickam, 2000 Homer Hickam, a NASA engineer, recounts his childhood in Coalwood, a West Virginia mining town, and discusses his dreams of launching rockets into outer space, and how he made those dreams come true.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *Great Leader, Great Teacher* Gary Bredfeldt, 2006-08-01 So many leadership philosophies—even within the church—are based on worldly examples of success. Bredfeldt calls readers to be what the Bible empowers them to be, teachers who follow Christ’s example of leading by serving.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *October Sky* Homer Hickam, 1999-02-16 The true story, originally published as *Rocket Boys*, that inspired the Universal Pictures film. It was 1957, the year Sputnik raced across the Appalachian sky, and the small town of Coalwood, West Virginia, was slowly dying. Faced with an uncertain future, Homer Hickam nurtured a dream: to send rockets into outer space. The introspective son of the mine’s superintendent and a mother determined to get him out of Coalwood forever, Homer fell in with a group of misfits who learned not only how to turn scraps of metal into sophisticated rockets but how to sustain their hope in a town that swallowed its men alive. As the boys began to light up the tarry skies with their flaming projectiles and dreams of glory, Coalwood, and the Hickams, would never be the same.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *Don’t Blow Yourself Up* Homer Hickam, 2021-10-19 Homer Hickam’s memoir *Rocket Boys* and the movie adaptation *October Sky* have become one of the most popular stories in the world, inspiring millions to pursue a better life. But what happened to Homer after he was a West Virginia rocket boy? In his latest memoir, Homer recounts his life in college where he built the world’s biggest, baddest game cannon, fought through some of the worst battles in Vietnam, became a scuba instructor, discovered sunken U-boats, wrote the definitive account of a World War II naval battle, befriended Tom Clancy, made a desperate attempt to save the passengers of a sunken river boat, trained the first Japanese astronauts, taught David Letterman to scuba dive, helped to fix the Hubble Space Telescope, wrote his number one bestselling *Rocket Boys*, and was on set during the making of *October Sky*. Although told with humor and wit, Hickam does not shy away from the pain and hardship endured and the mistakes he made during the tumultuous decades since his life in the town he made famous—Coalwood, West Virginia.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *Don’t Blow Yourself Up* Homer Hickam, 2021-10-19 From Homer Hickam, the author of the #1 bestselling *Rocket Boys* adapted into the beloved film *October Sky*, comes this astonishing memoir of high adventure, war, love, NASA, and his struggle for literary success. Homer Hickam’s memoir *Rocket Boys* and the movie adaptation *October Sky* have become one of the most popular stories in the world, inspiring millions to pursue a better life. But what happened to Homer after he was a West Virginia rocket boy? In his latest memoir, Homer recounts

his life in college where he built the world's biggest, baddest game cannon, fought through some of the worst battles in Vietnam, became a scuba instructor, discovered sunken U-boats, wrote the definitive account of a World War II naval battle, befriended Tom Clancy, made a desperate attempt to save the passengers of a sunken river boat, trained the first Japanese astronauts, taught David Letterman to scuba dive, helped to fix the Hubble Space Telescope, wrote his number one bestselling *Rocket Boys*, and was on set during the making of *October Sky*. Although told with humor and wit, Hickam does not shy away from the pain and hardship endured and the mistakes he made during the tumultuous decades since his life in the town he made famous—Coalwood, West Virginia.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *Wild Things* Stephen James, David Thomas, 2011-07-14 A practical guide to understanding the way, the mind, and the heart of a boy. A boy's endless imagination, hunger for adventure, and passionate spirit are matched only by his deep desire to be affirmed, esteemed, and loved. Yet over the past few decades, our culture has adopted a model of parenting and educating children that doesn't affirm, celebrate, nurture, or embrace a boy's wildness but rather seeks to tame it. As a result, many moms and dads find themselves frustrated, confused, and wearied by their sons' behavior. The truth is, boys don't need to be tamed—they need to be understood, loved, challenged, and encouraged. Based on clinical research and filled with practical tips and suggestions, therapists Stephen James and David Thomas give fresh insight and much-needed encouragement on the road to raising boys by talking about: Parenting the different stages in a boy's life Healthy discipline and correction Sitting still and paying attention Hot topics like screen time and dating *Wild Things* helps Christian parents, teachers, mentors, and coaches understand and explore the hearts, minds, and ways of boys and the vital role parents and caregivers play on the journey to authentic manhood.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *The Boy Who Played with Fusion* Tom Clynes, 2015-06-09 This story of a child prodigy and his unique upbringing is "an engrossing journey to the outer realms of science and parenting" (Paul Greenberg, author of *Four Fish*). A PEN/E. O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award Finalist Like many young children, Taylor Wilson dreamed of becoming an astronaut. Only Wilson mastered the science of rocket propulsion by the age of nine. When he was eleven, he tried to cure his grandmother's cancer—and discovered new ways to produce medical isotopes. Then, at fourteen, Wilson became the youngest person in history to achieve nuclear fusion, building a 500-million-degree reactor—in his parents' garage. In *The Boy Who Played with Fusion*, science journalist Tom Clynes narrates Wilson's extraordinary story. Born in Texarkana, Arkansas, Wilson quickly displayed an advanced intellect. Recognizing their son's abilities and the limitations of their local schools, his parents took a bold leap and moved the family to Reno, Nevada. There, Wilson could attend a unique public high school created specifically for academic superstars. Wilson is now designing devices to prevent terrorists from shipping radioactive material and inspiring a new generation to take on the challenges of science. If you're wondering how someone so young can achieve so much, *The Boy Who Played with Fusion* has the answer. Along the way, Clynes' narrative teaches parents, teachers, and society how and why we urgently need to support high-achieving kids. "An essential contribution to our understanding of the most important underlying questions about the development of giftedness, talent, creativity, and intelligence." —Psychology Today "A compelling study of the thrills—and burdens—of being born with an alpha intellect." —Financial Times

rocket boys by homer hickam: *Legendary Locals of McDowell County* William R. Archer, 2013 West Virginia's most impoverished county, McDowell County, is also its richest, with reserves of mineral wealth that continue to provide the framework for modern society from Panama and Toyko to New York and Chicago. With a history cratered by triumph and tragedy, the people of McDowell County have endured unspeakable hardships and near isolation but continue to excel in a myriad of unexpectedly surprising ways. Robert Morris, the financier of the American Revolution, went to the poor house with the belief that McDowell's mineral wealth could fuel a new nation. Jedediah Hotchkiss, the mapmaker who charted the course for Gen. Thomas Stonewall Jackson's valley campaign, resurrected Morris's dream to rebuild the South into an industrial giant on local

coal. Men of vision and means like Frederick Kimball and J.P. Morgan built fortunes on McDowell County's mineral wealth. The musical Womack family, baseball manager Charlie Manuel, comedic genius Steve Harvey, writers Kermit Hunter and Jeannette Walls, and thousands who served in all ranks of the military, many making the supreme sacrifice, are among those who have made their mark on McDowell County.

rocket boys by homer hickam: *Innocent Experiments* Rebecca Onion, 2016-10-04 From the 1950s to the digital age, Americans have pushed their children to live science-minded lives, cementing scientific discovery and youthful curiosity as inseparable ideals. In this multifaceted work, historian Rebecca Onion examines the rise of informal children's science education in the twentieth century, from the proliferation of home chemistry sets after World War I to the century-long boom in child-centered science museums. Onion looks at how the United States has increasingly focused its energies over the last century into producing young scientists outside of the classroom. She shows that although Americans profess to believe that success in the sciences is synonymous with good citizenship, this idea is deeply complicated in an era when scientific data is hotly contested and many Americans have a conflicted view of science itself. These contradictions, Onion explains, can be understood by examining the histories of popular science and the development of ideas about American childhood. She shows how the idealized concept of "science" has moved through the public consciousness and how the drive to make child scientists has deeply influenced American culture.

rocket boys by homer hickam: Pizzazz! Bob Pauley, 2017-11-10 Pizzazz! is a graphic nonfiction self-help bio by Bob Pauley. Its a color-filled, adventure-packed motivational book that outlines tips for success from flipping houses to writing hit songs. Bob describes his journey from country bumpkin to becoming a prestigious member of the Albert Einstein Fellowship and computer scientist for the National Science Foundation. From the deepest coalmines of Appalachia to the wild blue yonder as a jet fighter pilot, Bob has led a rich and exciting life, and hes ready to share his expertise and the pizzazz that comes with it. His career began in the Hatfield-McCoy backwoods as a coalmining engineer, the inspiration for the rocket boys of October Sky with his red Corvette convertible. As an Aviation Cadet in the USAF, Bob learned aerobatics, formation, instrument, and twin-engine jet fighter skills. As an engineer, he became a rocket and jet engine research programmer with giant IBM computers at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. Then he went on to oceanfront resort management in Palm Beach and Nashville, where he met business moguls, movie stars, and entertainers. He became a published songwriter! Bob Pauley once wrote a song for a wrongfully convicted death row inmate that saved the mans life. By 2001, he added a computer science degree to his rsum, won many awards, and soon became a member of the Albert Einstein Fellowship. He moved to Washington, DC, to work for the National Science Foundation promoting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) education. Following NSF, Bob obtained his affiliate brokers license to flip houses while making music in Nashville. Bob races cars, cruises the oceans, and barnstorms the skies. He has crashed and burned a red Corvette in Tallahassee and a Cherokee 6 just north of Kingston, Jamaica. He spelunks, mountain climbs, and scuba dives, living life on the edge. His friends over the years include Colonel Harland Sanders, singer Elvis Presley, Congressman Allen West, ukulele soloist Tiny Tim, and soul artist James Brown. Bob has compiled his memories and skillsets into one book to share. It is called Pizzazz! Pizzazz! offers its readers something specialthe opportunity to join our Millionaires Investment Group. This is an unprecedented opportunity to flip houses in partnership with knowledgeable teams of investors. In blocks of one thousand dollars per share, beginning flips are possible with shared ownerships of several (five to ten perhaps) like-minded investors. This enables would-be investors to begin investing immediately by sharing their ownership in residential properties with others. With the innovation of group sharing, Bob Pauley promises cash-strapped investors the chance to invest more quickly. And he shares the opportunity to write professional poetry, music, books, and screenplays in their spare time and to share other exciting and daring adventures guaranteed to bring pizzazz into their lives. This explosive tell-all is a must-read for the adventurous and entrepreneurial spirit.

rocket boys by homer hickam: Cielo de octubre (Rocket Boys) Homer Hickam, 2017-09-26

Las memorias best seller que inspiraron la película Cielo de Octubre, Rocket Boys es una autobiografía poderosa y una historia luminosa de la vida en la década de 1960, del amor de una madre y del temor de un padre, de un grupo de jóvenes que soñaban con lanzar cohetes al espacio... y de hacer realidad los sueños. Así comienza la maravillosamente entretenida y extraordinaria autobiografía de la vida de «Sonny» Homer Hickam, Jr. en Coalwood, Virginia Occidental, un pueblo miserable donde lo único que importaba era la minería de carbón y el fútbol americano. El segundo hijo introspectivo del superintendente de la mina y de una madre decidida a alcanzar una vida mejor para su hijo, Sonny se unió a un grupo de inadaptados para quienes el futuro parecía incierto. Pero en 1957, luego de haber visto el satélite soviético Sputnik cruzar el cielo de los Apalaches, Sonny y sus amigos adolescentes tomaron el futuro en sus manos, cambiando sus vidas y su ciudad para siempre. Recordando una carrera distinguida en la NASA que hizo realidad los sueños de su niñez, Hickam relata la historia de su juventud, llevando a los lectores a la vida de aquel pueblo minero y las de los muchachos que encarnaron sus tensiones y sus sueños. Con la ayuda —y en ocasiones los obstáculos— de los habitantes de Coalwood, los jóvenes aprendieron no solo a convertir escombros de minería en cohetes que surcaban los cielos, sino que encontraron esperanza en una ciudad en la que el progreso pasaba desapercibido. Una autobiografía única, Cielo de octubre es a la vez una crónica inspiradora de triunfo y una historia luminosa del amor de una madre, los temores de un padre y la vida de un joven. Con la sencilla gracia de un narrador por naturaleza, Homer Hickam capta a la perfección un momento en el cual un pueblo agonizante, una familia dividida y una banda de adolescents soñadores se atrevieron a mirar más allá de sus diferencias y a fijar sus objetivos en las estrellas... y vieron un futuro que la nación estaba apenas empezando a imaginar. A story of romance and loss and a keen portrait of life at an extraordinary point in American history, Rocket Boys is a chronicle of triumph. One of the most beloved bestsellers in recent years, Rocket Boys is a uniquely American memoir. A powerful, luminous story of coming of age at the end of the 1950s, it is the story of a mother's love and a father's fears, of growing up and getting out. With the grace of a natural storyteller, Homer Hickam looks back after a distinguished NASA career to tell his own true story of growing up in a dying coal town and of how, against the odds, he made his dreams of launching rockets into outer space come true. A story of romance and loss and a keen portrait of life at an extraordinary point in American history, Rocket Boys is a chronicle of triumph.

rocket boys by homer hickam: Superhuman Japan Marie Thorsten, 2012-03-15 This book examines the imaginative narratives that shaped the attitudes of Americans (and others) toward Japan. Focusing on cultural aspects of economic nationalism and US-Japan relations during the trade war Marie Thorsten uses examples from public discourse, film, documentaries, novels, acts of racism and comparison of international education assessments to examine the way in which Japan has been constituted in a global political gaze as an economic hegemon. In times of heightened rivalry, we often try to find superior others so that we can motivate ourselves against an imagined future of decline. During the Cold War, Americans and other nations in the West took advantage of being the underdog against the perceived superiority of the Soviet Union, especially by turning the Sputnik launch of 1957 into a lodestone for an educational renaissance. As postwar Japanese power became increasingly threatening, American policymakers again tried to fashion Japan into another Sputnik to motivate American people. This book explores 1980s Bubble Japan as a Superhuman Other in the consciousness of Americans, especially as reflected in popular culture and policy discourses. Making Japan into a Superhuman often resorted into the same stereotyping that invented Japan as a Subhuman. It was difficult for many to see that America, Japan and other nations were actually sharing the same global economic circumstances affecting attitudes toward knowledge and nation. This book will be of interest to students and scholars of Japanese politics, International Relations and Japanese culture and society.

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