Earthrise: how man first saw the Earth. Yale University Press, New Haven, USA. Full text not available from this repository.

(Contact the author)
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Abstract

Earthrise tells the remarkable story of the first photographs of Earth from space and the totally unexpected impact of those images. The Apollo “Earthrise” and “Blue Marble” photographs were beamed across the world some forty years ago. They had an astounding effect, Robert Poole explains, and in fact transformed thinking about the Earth and its environment in a way that echoed throughout religion, culture, and science. Gazing upon our whole planet for the first time, we saw ourselves and our place in the universe with new clarity. Poole delves into new areas of research and looks at familiar history from fresh perspectives. With intriguing anecdotes and wonderful pictures, he examines afresh the politics of the Apollo missions, the challenges of whole Earth photography, and the story of the behind-the-scenes struggles to get photographs of the Earth put into mission plans. He traces the history of imagined visions of Earth from space and explores what happened when imagination met reality. The photographs of Earth represented a turning point, Poole contends. In their wake, Earth Day was inaugurated, the environmental movement took off, and the first space age ended. People turned their focus back toward Earth, toward the precious and fragile planet we call home.

In the altogether excellent Earthrise: How Man First Saw the Earth (public library), British historian Robert Poole further explores the extraordinary circumstances of that pioneering photograph and its monumental impact on our sense of place in the universe — a sense best captured by the poet Archibald MacLeish shortly after the debut of Earthrise, whose essay “Riders on the Earth” Poole points to as the perfect articulation of how the iconic photograph stirred humanity: For the first time in all of time, men have seen the Earth. Seen it not as continents or oceans from the little distance o Start by marking “Earthrise: How Man First Saw the Earth” as Want to Read: Want to Read saving… Want to Read. The story of the Earthrise photo (and similar photos of the whole earth and the pale blue dot, a picture of Earth taken from deep in the galaxy as opposed from the moon or lunar orbit) is not just about how NASA and the Apollo astronauts found the time, initiative and wherewithal to snap a picture of our home planet.