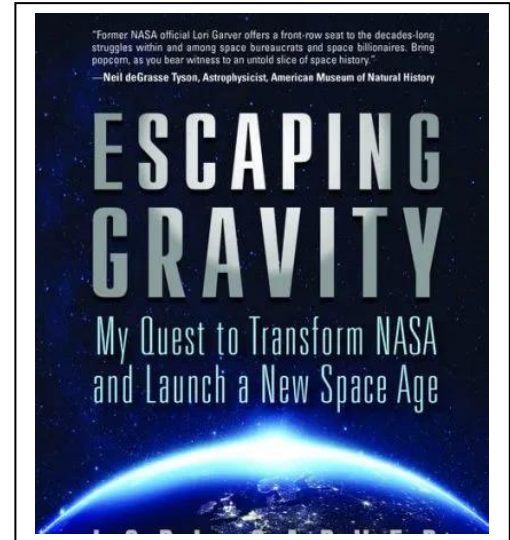


From the Planners' Bookshelf...

Escaping Gravity: My Quest to Transform NASA and Launch a New Space Age.

by [Lori Garver](#), [Walter Isaacson](#) (Foreword by)
Diversions Books, 304 pp, 2022.

CT.org suspects you might find it strange that we suggest a book about the space industry when we are concerned primarily with the prosperity of small cities and towns. However, occasionally we come across a book wherein one industry experiences a situation that applies to any and all organizations. In this case, NASA struggles with new paradigms. Books previously noted of this ilk include *Fins: Harley Earl, the Rise of General Motors, and the Glory Days of Detroit* by William Knoedelseder and *The Firm: The Story of McKinsey and Its Secret Influence on American Business* by [Duff McDonald](#). Both excellent management lessons. **We all suffer from blinders and “baggage...beware.**



From Barnes & Noble... “Former NASA official Lori Garver offers a front-row seat to the decades-long struggles within and among space bureaucrats and space billionaires. Bring popcorn, as you bear witness to an untold slice of space history.”—Neil deGrasse Tyson, Astrophysicist and author of *Space Chronicles: Facing the Ultimate Frontier*

How Lori Garver's Battle Against the Greed and Corruption of the US Space Program Revolutionized NASA and Ushered in the New Space Age

Escaping Gravity is former NASA Deputy Administrator Lori Garver's firsthand account of how a handful of revolutionaries overcame the political patronage and bureaucracy that threatened the space agency. The success of Elon Musk's SpaceX, Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin, Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic, and countless other commercial space efforts were preceded by decades of work by a group of people Garver calls “space pirates.” Their quest to transform NASA put Garver in the crosshairs of Congress, the aerospace industry, and hero-astronauts trying to protect their own profits and mythology within a system that had held power since the 1950s.

About the Author, From Amazon
Lori Garver is a leading figure in the US space program who pioneered innovations that are transforming NASA. She was the principal advisor on aerospace issues to three presidential candidates and led the NASA transition team for President Obama. Garver served as the Deputy Administrator of the Space Agency from 2009 to 2013 and is known as an architect of the new era of commercial partnerships that allow SpaceX to carry astronauts to and from the International Space Station.

Garver is the founder of the Brooke Owens Fellowship, an internship and mentorship program for collegiate women interested in pursuing space careers. She is the recipient of the 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award for Women in Aerospace and has been awarded three NASA Distinguished Service Medals. She lives in Washington, DC.

LINK: <https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/escaping-gravity-lori-garver/1140514750>