



Title: The Martian

Author: Andy Weir

Imprint: Ballantine Books

Publisher: Random House Publishing Group

On sale date: October 28, 2014

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BOOK RESUME: THE MARTIAN

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Six days ago, astronaut Mark Watney became one of the first people to walk on Mars.

Now, he's sure he'll be the first person to die there.

After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, Mark finds himself stranded and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive—and even if he could get word out, his supplies would be gone long before a rescue could arrive.

Chances are, though, he won't have time to starve to death. The damaged machinery, unforgiving environment, or plain-old "human error" are much more likely to kill him first.

But Mark isn't ready to give up yet. Drawing on his ingenuity, his engineering skills—and a relentless, dogged refusal to quit—he steadfastly confronts one seemingly insurmountable obstacle after the next. Will his resourcefulness be enough to overcome the impossible odds against him?

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Brilliant . . . a celebration of human ingenuity [and] the purest example of real-science sci-fi for many years . . . utterly compelling." —*The Wall Street Journal*

"A hugely entertaining novel [that] reads like a rocket ship afire . . . Weir has fashioned in Mark Watney one of the most appealing, funny, and resourceful characters in recent fiction." —*Chicago Tribune*

"As gripping as they come . . . You'll be rooting for Watney the whole way, groaning at every setback and laughing at his pitchblack humor. Utterly nail-biting and memorable." —*Financial Times*

"Andy Weir delivers with *The Martian*. . . a story for readers who enjoy thrillers, science fiction, non-fiction, or flat-out adventure [and] an authentic portrayal of the future of space travel." —*Associated Press*

"A book I just couldn't put down! It has the very rare combination of a good, original story, interestingly real characters and fascinating technical accuracy." —Astronaut Chris Hadfield, Commander of the International Space Station and author of *An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth*

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Contact BannedBooks@penguinrandomhouse.com

*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

“Weir combines the heart-stopping with the humorous in this brilliant debut novel . . . by placing a nail-biting life-and-death situation on Mars and adding a snarky and wise-cracking nerdy hero, Weir has created the perfect mix of action and space adventure.” —*Library Journal* (starred)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Winner of the 2024 American Library Association and Young Adult Library Services Association’s Alex Award
- Winner of the 2015 Space Frontier Foundation’s Best Presentation of Space Award
- Winner of the 2016 Hugo Award’s John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer
- Named One of *Paste*’s Best Novels of the Decade

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Teacher’s Guide](#)

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

- [“Andy Weir’s Best Seller ‘The Martian’ Gets a Classroom-Friendly Makeover,” *The New York Times* \(2017\)](#)
 - “I got a lot of emails from science teachers who said, “Man I’d love to use your book as a teaching aid, but there’s so much profanity in it that we can’t really do that,” said Mr. Weir . . . ‘It’s hard to get that by a school board.’ . . . After getting dozens of inquiries from teachers, Mr. Weir . . . asked his publisher, Crown, if they could release a cleaned-up edition of the book.”

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