

外研社·DK 英汉对照百科读物

ELEMENTARY B 初级 B

奔向月球

RACE TO THE MOON

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(京)新登字 155 号

京权图字: 01 - 2001 - 1986

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

奔向月球/(英)吴拉德(Woolard, S.)著;盖兆泉译.
- 北京: 外语教学与研究出版社, 2001. 10
ISBN 7-5600-2503-X

I. 奔… II. ①吴… ②盖… III. 英语-对照读物-英、汉 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2001)第 093012 号



A Dorling Kindersley Book
www.dk.com

Original title: **RACE TO THE MOON**
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项目管理: 宋德伟

执行编辑: 辛公军

出版发行: 外语教学与研究出版社

社 址: 北京市西三环北路 19 号 (100089)

网 址: <http://www.fltrp.com.cn>

印 刷: 中国农业出版社印刷厂

开 本: 889×1194 1/32

印 张: 1.625

版 次: 2001 年 12 月第 1 版 2002 年 1 月第 2 次印刷

书 号: ISBN 7-5600-2503-X/H·1304

定 价: 6.90 元

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Journey to the Moon

Five, four, three, two, one – take-off! Slowly, and with a great roar like an animal, the huge Apollo 11 spacecraft went up off the ground. All the people nearby cheered and shouted as they watched the flames and smoke come out of the bottom of the rocket. Apollo 11 was on its way at last – on its dangerous journey to the Moon.



This was a historic moment. In 1961, President Kennedy made a promise to the people of America, “An American will be on the Moon before the end of the 1960s.” Now, it was the summer of 1969 – and Apollo 11 was the last chance to keep that promise. Were these astronauts going to make history?

Outside the spacecraft, many people and journalists were watching and cheering. The photographers were taking pictures for the next day's newspapers. Inside the spacecraft, Commander Neil Armstrong and the other two astronauts could feel their hearts go faster. They all knew that the mission was dangerous. They knew that they had a fifty-fifty chance of getting to the Moon and coming back alive.

It was a dangerous journey, but the astronauts had been trained for this moment. They knew exactly what they had to do. This was work, not a holiday trip!

月球之旅

五、四、三、二、一——发射！慢慢地，随着一声巨兽般的怒吼，阿波罗 11 号腾空而起。看着火箭底部喷射出的浓烟烈火，围观的人们欢呼雀跃。终于，阿波罗 11 号踏上了奔向月球的艰险旅程。

这是一个历史性的时刻。1961 年，肯尼迪总统向美国人民承诺：“六十年代结束之前，美国人将登上月球。”现在的时间是 1969 年夏天，阿波罗 11 号是履行这个诺言的最后机会。那么，这些宇航员们能否创造历史呢？

大批围观群众和新闻记者欢呼着，聚集在飞船外面观看发射。摄影师正在为第二天发行的报纸拍摄照片。船舱内指挥官阿姆斯特朗和他的两位同事感到心跳加速。他们都知道这项任务的危险性。他们很清楚成功登月并平安返回的可能性只有 50%。

这虽然是一次危险的旅行，可宇航员们已经为这一时刻训练了好久。他们很清楚他们应该怎么做。这是工作，不是假日旅游！

Take-off, July 16, 1969

The three American astronauts were (from left to right) Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Edwin Aldrin.

起飞，1969 年 7 月 16 日

三位美国宇航员（从左到右）分别是尼尔·阿姆斯特朗、迈克尔·科林斯和爱德文·阿尔德林。





Commander Armstrong and the other two astronauts, Aldrin and Collins, had a lot of work to do. Armstrong looked carefully at the instrument panel – everything was looking good. The rocket went faster and faster, and he watched the lights and dials change.

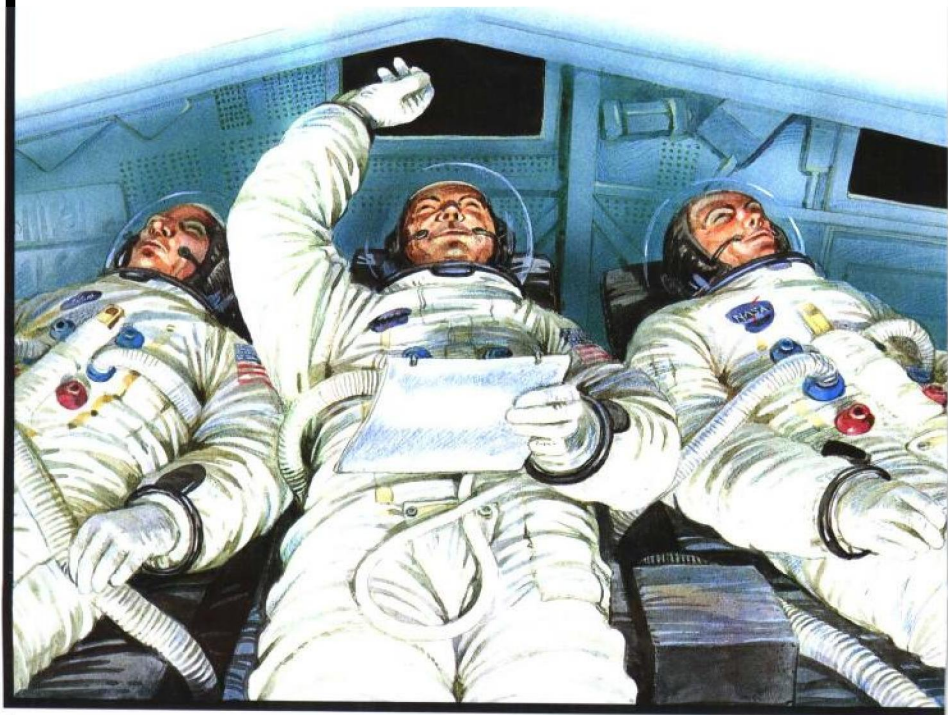
Soon they were travelling at 25,000 miles an hour (40,000 kilometres an hour) – that is thirty times faster than a jet engine. The force now pushed the men back into their seats, and it was very difficult to move. But the astronauts knew this happened at take-off, and they weren't worried. They closed their eyes and waited.

The spacecraft was huge – it was taller than a thirty-storey building. The astronauts sat in a small capsule, but the biggest part of the spacecraft was the huge Saturn V rocket.

指挥官阿姆斯特朗和另两名宇航员阿尔德林和科林斯有许多工作要做。阿姆斯特朗仔细检查了仪表盘——一切正常。火箭越飞越快，他发现指示灯和数字不断变化。

很快火箭的速度达到了每小时25,000英里(每小时40,000公里)——比喷气式飞机的速度快30倍。巨大的惯性把人重重地压在座位上，使他们移动起来比较困难。但是宇航员们知道这只是起飞时的情况，他们并不担心。他们闭上眼睛等待着。

飞船很大，有30层楼那么高。宇航员坐在小驾驶舱里，而飞船的最大部分是土星V型火箭。





This carried all the fuel they needed to get out of the Earth's atmosphere – the air around the surface of the Earth. They needed a lot of fuel to get away from the Earth – but not to travel through space.

After all the fuel was finished, the huge rocket broke away and fell back down to the ground. Then the astronauts continued their journey in the smaller capsule, which was called the Command Module.

火箭里装满了飞离地球大气层，即围绕在地球表面的空气层所需的燃料。飞离地球需要大量燃料——而在太空中飞行却不需要。

当所有燃料用尽之后，火箭自动脱离并坠落在地面上。然后宇航员们在小船舱里继续飞行，这个小船舱叫做指挥舱。

The Saturn rocket

After nearly 12 minutes the rocket, now with no fuel, broke away and fell to the ground.

土星火箭

12 分钟以后燃料用尽，火箭脱离并坠入地球。





Commander Neil Armstrong
指挥官尼尔·阿姆斯特朗

Inside the Command Module, Armstrong turned to talk to Edwin Aldrin. The first part of their journey was finished, and they were out of the Earth's atmosphere. Now it was time to start the second part. "In three days, we will be at the Moon," he said, "It is time to talk about our plans. We have to be sure what to do." Aldrin smiled and nodded.

指挥舱内，阿姆斯特朗正在向阿尔德林下达指令。旅程的第一阶段已经结束，他们现在已经脱离了大气层。现在开始第二阶段航程。“三天以后我们将到达月球，”他说：“现在讨论一下我们的计划。我们把要做的事情确定一下。”阿尔德林微笑着点了点头。

Aldrin was a happy man. After many years studying space, now he was actually there – and on his way to the Moon! He wanted to walk on the Moon's surface, and to do some scientific experiments there.

Armstrong and Aldrin worked together, and talked about the landing on the Moon. The third astronaut, Michael Collins was feeling hungry, and so he got something to eat. It was strange food! Everything on the spacecraft was weightless – there was no gravity (see page 20) – so he couldn't eat normal food.

Normal food didn't stay on the plate in space – it floated up and away. So the astronauts had to eat special space food. This looked a little like baby food, and it was inside a plastic bag. All the food on the spacecraft was dry (there was no water in it), so they could keep it for a long time. Collins picked up a bag, and put some water into it before he ate it. It wasn't like his mother's cooking, but it didn't taste too bad! And you could eat something different for breakfast, lunch and dinner – they had many different kinds of food with them, like beef and chicken.

From time to time, the astronauts thought about “real” food on the Earth. But, for most of the time, food was simply part of the daily routine – it was necessary to stay alive, but it was nothing special!

阿尔德林是一个快乐的人。在对太空进行了多年的研究之后，他现在终于飞向月球了！他想去月球上行走，并且在那儿做一些科学实验。

阿姆斯特朗和阿尔德林在一起工作，一起讨论登月。另一位宇航员迈克尔·科林斯感到有点饿，于是就找了些东西吃。那都是非常特殊的食品。飞船上的所有东西都处在失重状态——此处没有地球引力(见第20页)——他不能吃一般食品。

在太空中，一般的食品是不能放在盘子里的——它们总是飘来飘去。因此宇航员们必须吃特殊的太空食品。太空食品装在一个塑料袋里，有点像婴儿食品。飞船里的食品都是干的(里面没有水)，所以可以存放很长时间。科林斯拿起一个袋子，向里面加了些水。这可不像是他妈妈做的饭，但味道并不坏。宇航员可以一日三餐吃不同的食物——他们带了各式各样的食品，比如：牛肉和鸡肉。

宇航员们时常会怀念地球上那些“真正”的食物。可是，大多数情况下，食物只是日常生活中的一部分——它是生存所必需的，可并没有什么特别！

Space food

Astronauts put water into dried food to make it wet – then no crumbs (or pieces of food) could float around and damage the spacecraft's controls.

太空食品

宇航员在干燥的食物中加水将它润湿——以便没有食物残渣和碎块滑出来，损坏飞船中的设备。



The spacecraft traveled very fast towards the Moon, with the Earth behind it, and the three men rested. They would need a lot of energy when they got to the Moon. They had to be wide awake for the dangerous Moon landing, so it was better to sleep now. They had practiced sleeping in their strange, weightless state, while they were doing their training. Sleep was an important part of their activity. It was necessary to sleep well to make sure nothing went wrong in the next stage.

Out in space, the heat from the Sun is very, very strong. There was no atmosphere around the spacecraft (like the Earth's atmosphere) to protect it from the Sun's heat. So the capsule turned around and around as it traveled, and this stopped it from getting too hot on one side and catching fire.

Sometimes, when the men looked out of the windows, they could see the Earth. It was beautiful! The Earth was shining brightly, and it looked like a huge ball hanging in space. Everybody was talking about the pictures the astronauts sent back. These pictures changed the way we think about our world.

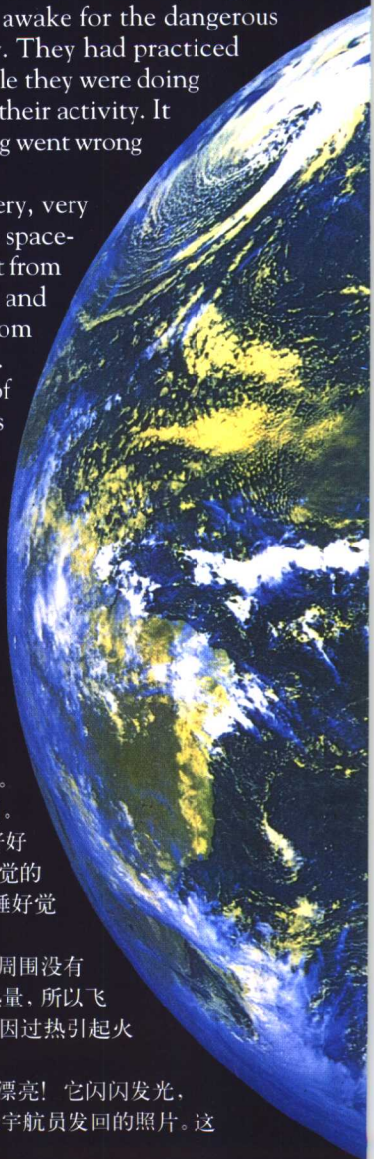
This moment marked a change from one age to another. In the nineteenth century, the Railway Age had opened up new possibilities. In the twentieth century, the Space Age was about to begin.

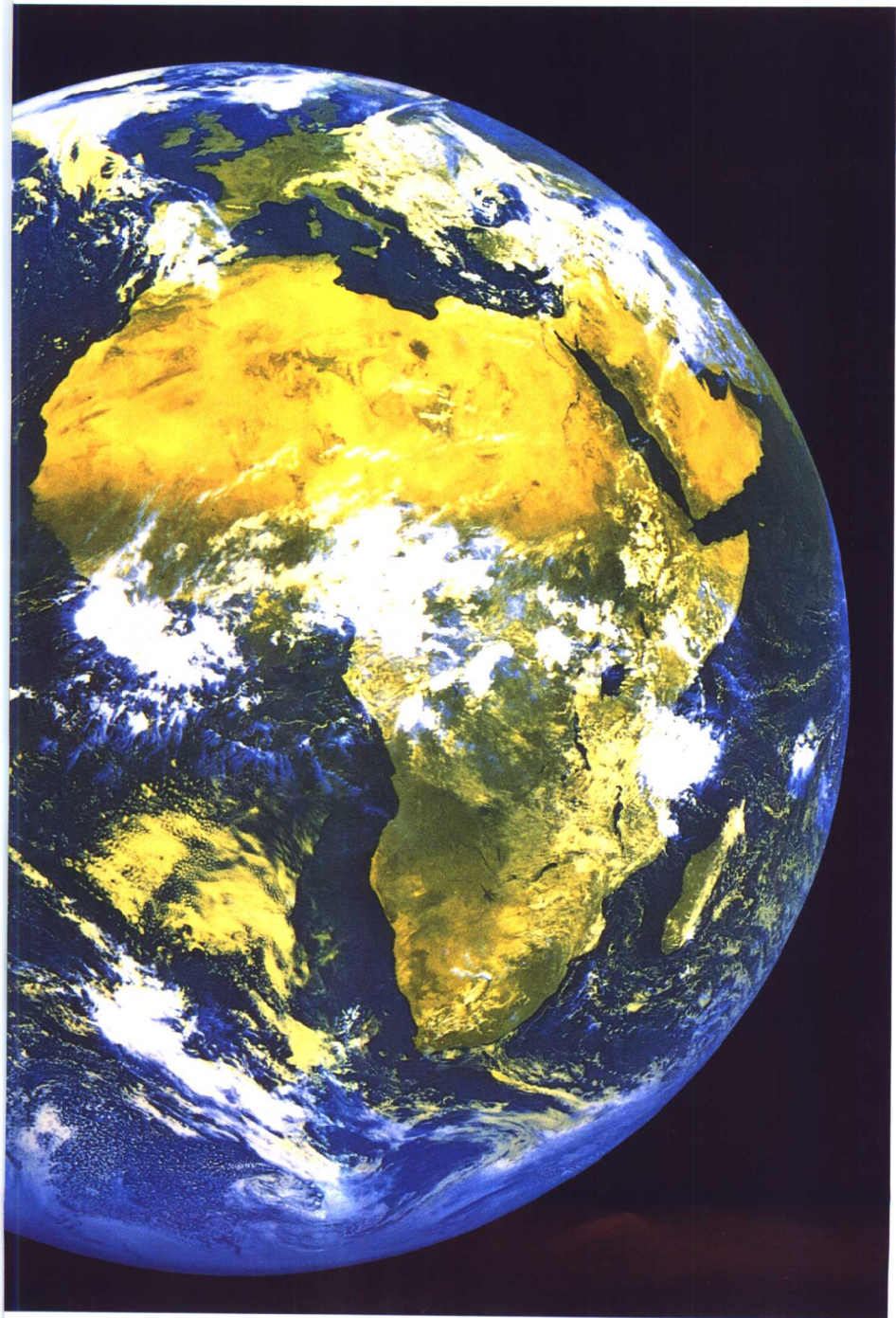
飞船飞快地驶向月球，把地球远远地甩在身后。三位宇航员在休息。他们需要充沛的体力来准备登月。要完成登月探险，他们必须充分清醒，所以现在要好好休息一下。在训练时他们接受过在失重的状态下睡觉的练习。睡觉是他们的一项非常重要的活动。必须要睡好觉以确保下一阶段万无一失。

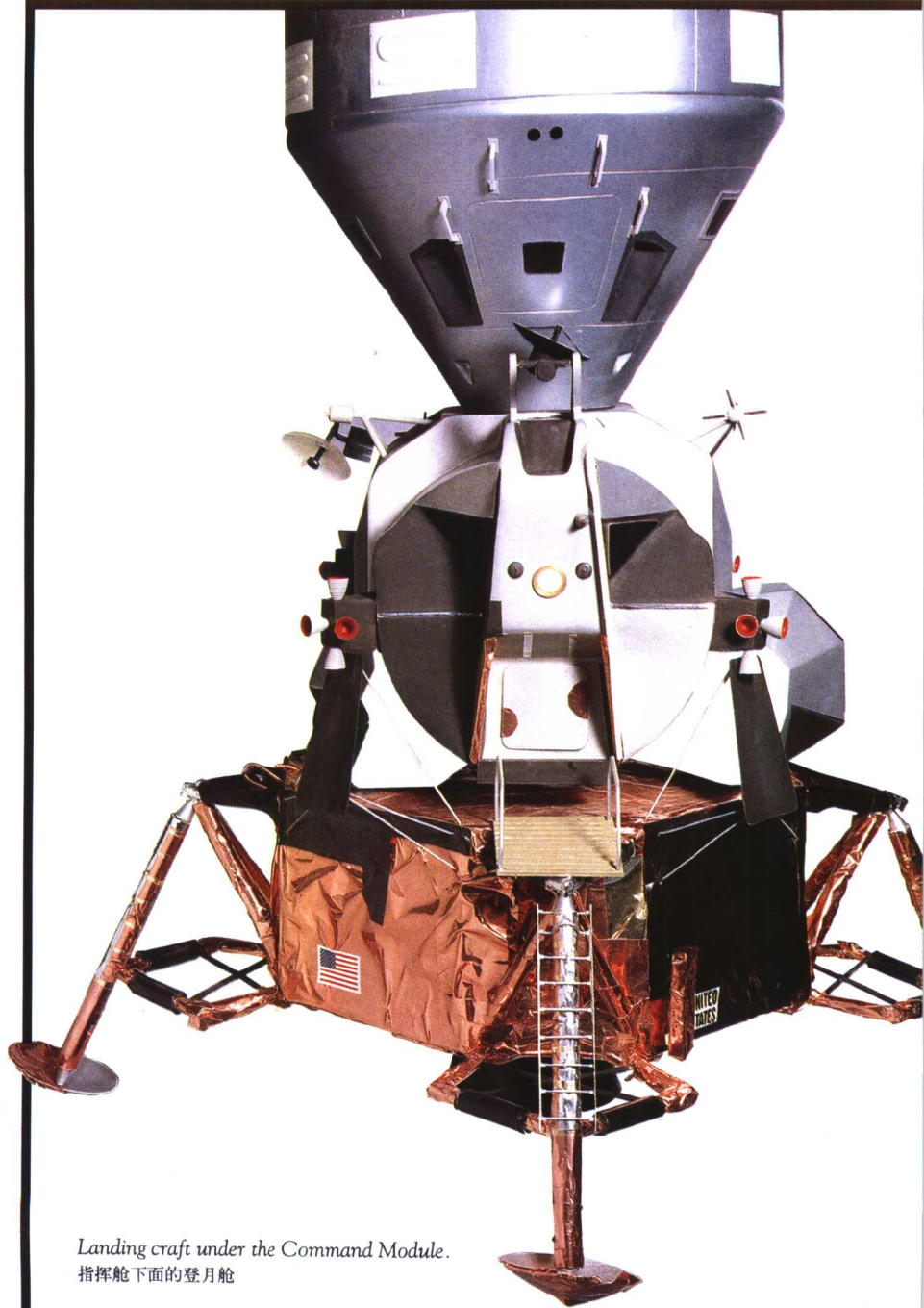
在外层空间，来自太阳的热量非常强大。飞船的周围没有大气层（像地球那样的大气层）来阻挡来自太阳的热量，所以飞船在飞行中不得不开回转动，以防止飞船的某一面因过热引起火灾。

有时宇航员透过窗户可以看到地球。地球非常漂亮！它闪闪发光，看起来就像挂在太空中的大球。现在，人们都在谈论宇航员发回的照片。这些照片改变了我们对地球的看法。

这个时刻标志着从一个时代到另一个时代的跨越。十九世纪的铁路时代给我们带来了许多新的契机。二十世纪太空时代即将开始。







Landing craft under the Command Module.
指挥舱下面的登月舱

The astronauts talked more about their plan. They wanted to land on a part of the Moon called the Sea of Tranquility. Of course, it wasn't a real sea, because there is no water on the Moon. But, from the Earth, it looked a little like a sea, and it also looked very flat – and a good place for their small craft to land. So the scientists gave the place this name, and they programmed the computers on the small spacecraft to land on this part of the Moon.

Armstrong looked at the clock again – they were on time. The spacecraft was now circling around the Moon and sending pictures back to Earth. It was a very important day for television cameras! This was another “first” in this incredible journey. Television cameras were going to transmit pictures of the Moon landing back to Earth. It would be possible for people sitting at home to watch Armstrong and his colleagues landing on the Moon. They would see exactly what happened: a triumph or a disaster!

Then the big moment arrived. It was time for two of the astronauts to land on the Moon.

Armstrong and Aldrin started to get everything ready for the next part of their journey. Then they left the Command Module and went into the small landing craft – this craft would take them to the Moon. It was small and narrow, and they climbed inside very carefully. The men called this small lunar module the “Eagle” (a large bird), but it looked more like a big spider than a bird!

The lunar module could take two astronauts from the Command Module down to the surface of the Moon and then back up again. It had everything the two men needed to live on the Moon for a short time. And it was the only craft they had to get off the Moon again.

宇航员谈论更多的是他们的计划。他们打算在月球上一块叫静海的地方着陆。当然，那不是真正的海，因为月球上没有水。但是，从地球上看来，它像一片海。它看上去也非常平坦——是一块着陆的好地方。因此科学家们称它为静海，他们把飞船上的电脑系统设定成在月球上的这个地点着陆。

阿姆斯特朗又看了一下表——他们已准时到达。飞船正绕着月球飞行，同时把照片发回地面。对电视转播来说，这是非常重要的一天。这也是这次神奇旅程中的另一个“第一次”。电视摄像机将把登月画面传回地球。人们可以坐在家里面观看阿姆斯特朗和他的同事们的登月过程。他们将目睹发生的一切：成功或灾难！

接下来伟大的时刻终于到来了。两位宇航员准备踏上月球。

阿姆斯特朗和阿尔德林开始为下一阶段旅程做准备。他们离开指挥舱进入小型登月舱，他们将乘登月舱在月球着陆。登陆舱又小又窄，他们非常小心地钻了进去。人们把这种小型登月舱称作“鹰”（一种大鸟），可它看起来更像一只大蜘蛛。

登月舱可以带着宇航员登上月球，之后再返回飞船。登月舱中装有供两个人在月球上短期生活的所有物品。同时它也是宇航员们飞离月球时能使用的唯一的工具。

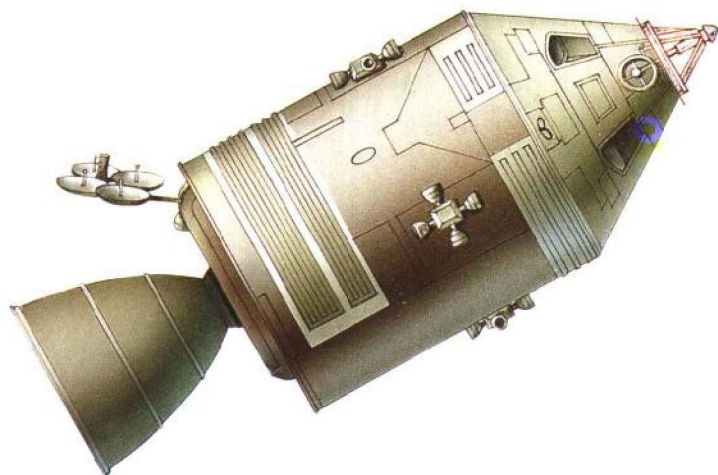


Michael Collins stayed in the Command Module – his job was to operate the controls there and wait for the other two men to come back. He watched the two astronauts climb into the Eagle and close the door. Then he pressed a button – slowly the small landing craft moved away from the Command Module. Then the Eagle, with the two astronauts inside, moved down towards the Moon's surface. It looked very small. It was on its own!

In the Eagle, Armstrong and Aldrin looked out of the window – soon they could see the lunar surface more clearly – and it was completely different from their ideas!

科林斯留在指挥舱里控制飞船，等待另外两个人的返回。他看到两个宇航员进入鹰舱关上舱门之后。他按动电钮——登月舱脱离指挥舱，然后登月舱载着两位宇航员缓缓驶向月球表面。它看起来非常小。现在是它施展本领的时候了！

在鹰舱里，阿姆斯特朗和阿尔德林向窗外望去——不久他们能够清楚地看到月球表面——与他们想像中的完全不同！



The Sea of Tranquillity looked very different from here. It wasn't really flat, and it looked very difficult to land on. There were many holes (or craters), and a lot of large rocks all around. These rocks were the size of small cars! The two men began to worry – they couldn't see a place to land safely! What were they going to do? They couldn't go back.

从这里看静海也不一样。它实际上并不平整，看起来在这儿着陆有些困难。这儿有许多坑坑洼洼(或是火山坑)，周围还有一些大岩石。这些岩石有小汽车那么大！两位宇航员开始担心——他们找不到一个安全的地方着陆！他们该怎么办？他们不能返回。