

# Motivations for Mars

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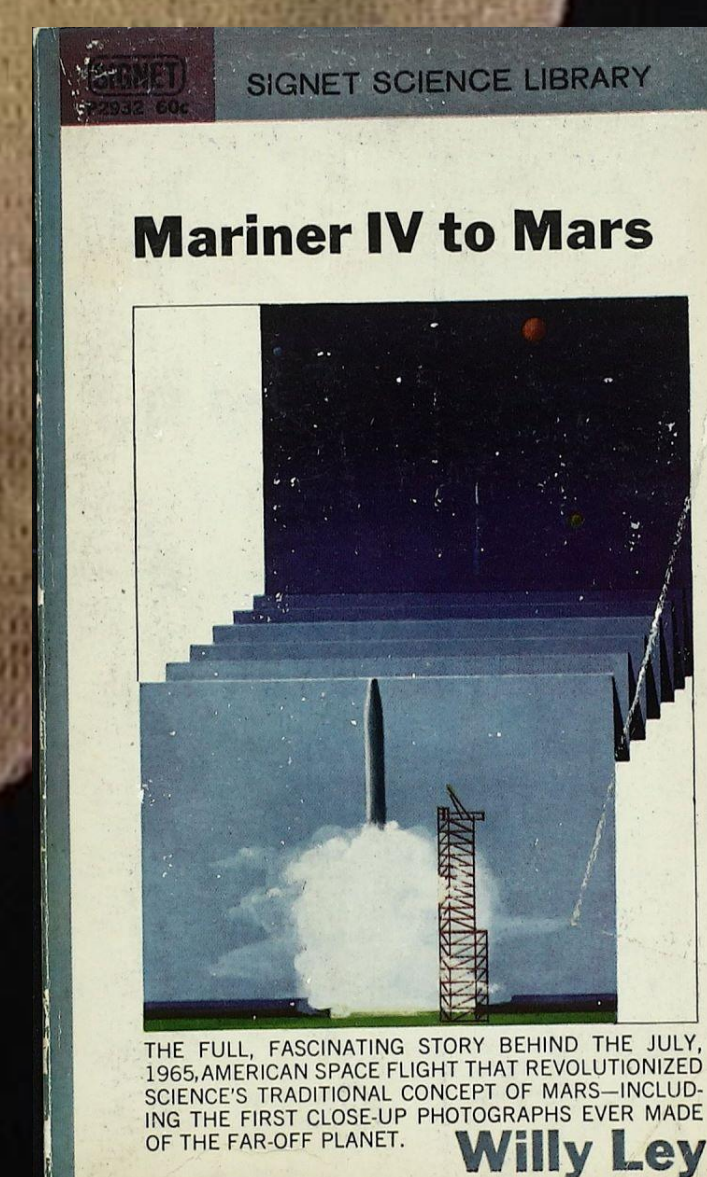
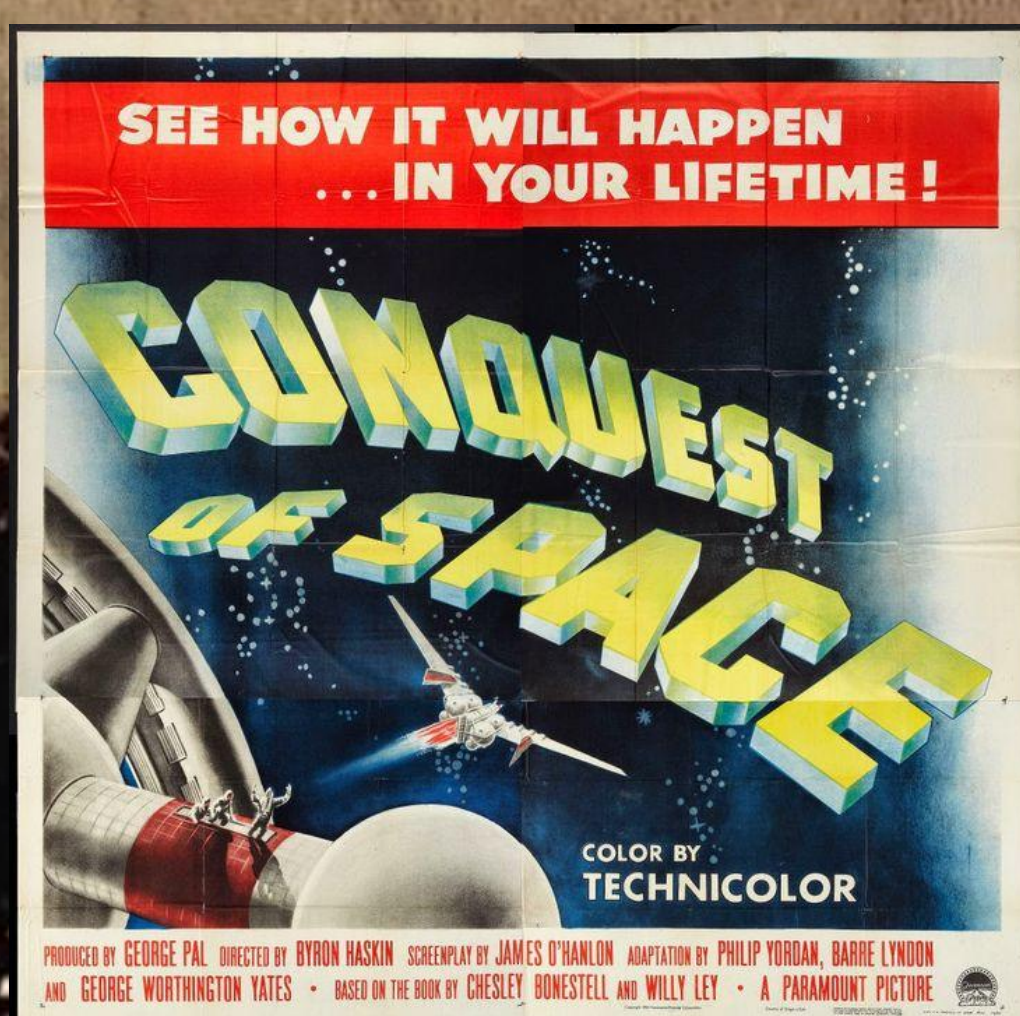
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## Abstract:

The goal of human space travel to Mars is not a new idea. In recent years, popular media has reignited a desire to reach Mars that has expanded into the general public. With private institutions such as Space-X and Blue Origin invested on getting to the Red Planet, achieving that goal is closer than ever. Favorable attitudes towards reaching Mars is not a recent invention, instead the motivation has changed over time. In the first half of the 20th century, scientists such as Willy Ley and Wernher von Braun wrote speculative histories that thought of Mars as another New World to explore. These volumes, while largely theoretical, included proposals with the supporting data needed to achieve this lofty vision. America took the exploration mentality and combined it with the need to compete against the Soviets after Sputnik launched. As Cold War tensions eased, the Apollo-Soyuz mission, and later the SkyLab/International Space Station fused the mentality of exploration with one of collaboration. In recent years, the rise of private corporations combined with technological advances has moved Mars closer as an achievable goal. The motivations of colonizing Mars now includes economic incentives. The economic motivation of recent years does not ignore the motivations that once were. Instead economics adds to the motivational pool that already included motivations to explore, compete, collaborate. Collectively these motivations help travel to Mars become more of a reality, an attainable vision that can be realized.

## Exploration:

Science Fiction meets Science



## Collaboration:

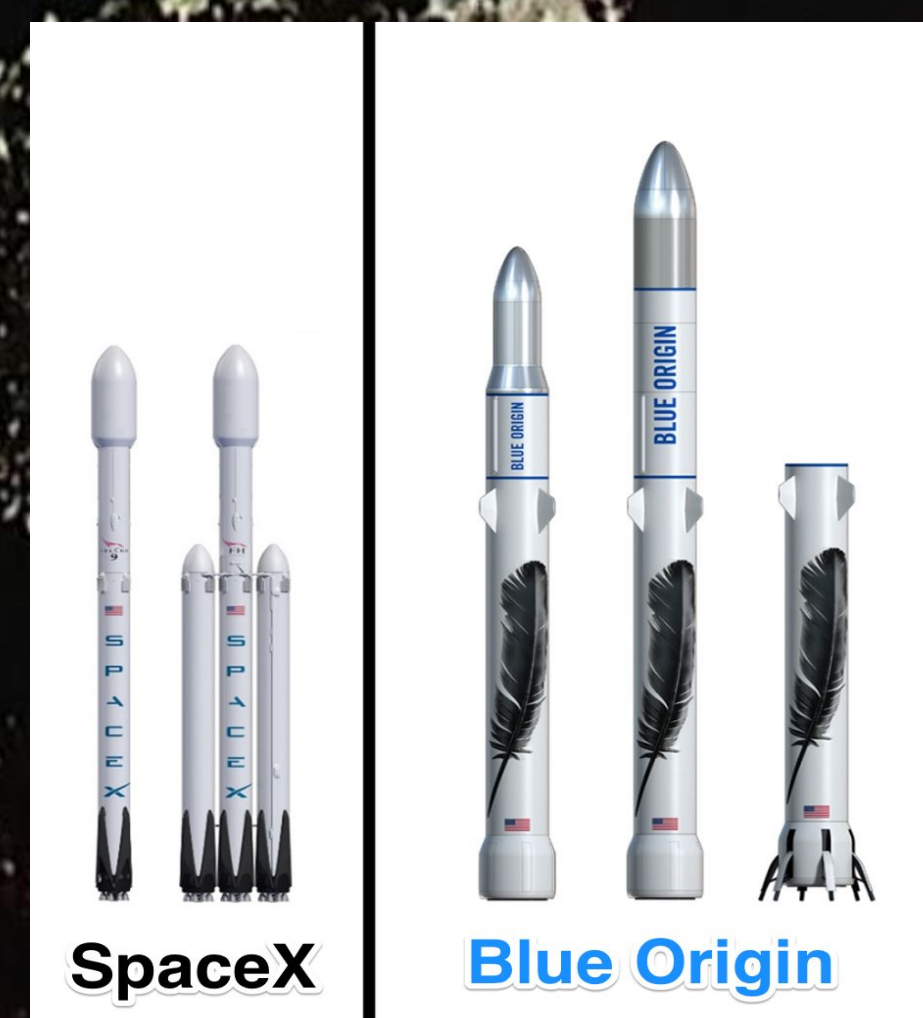
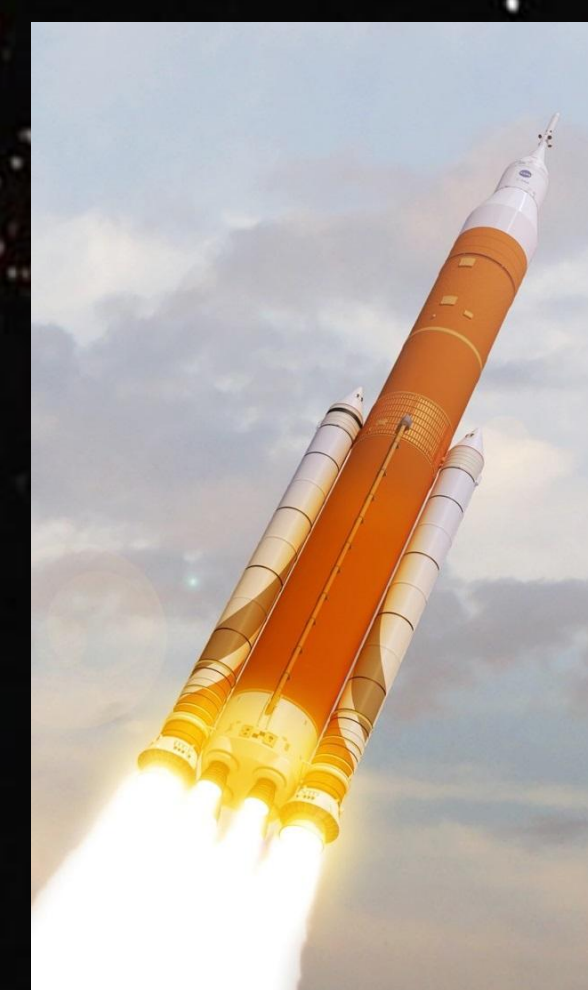
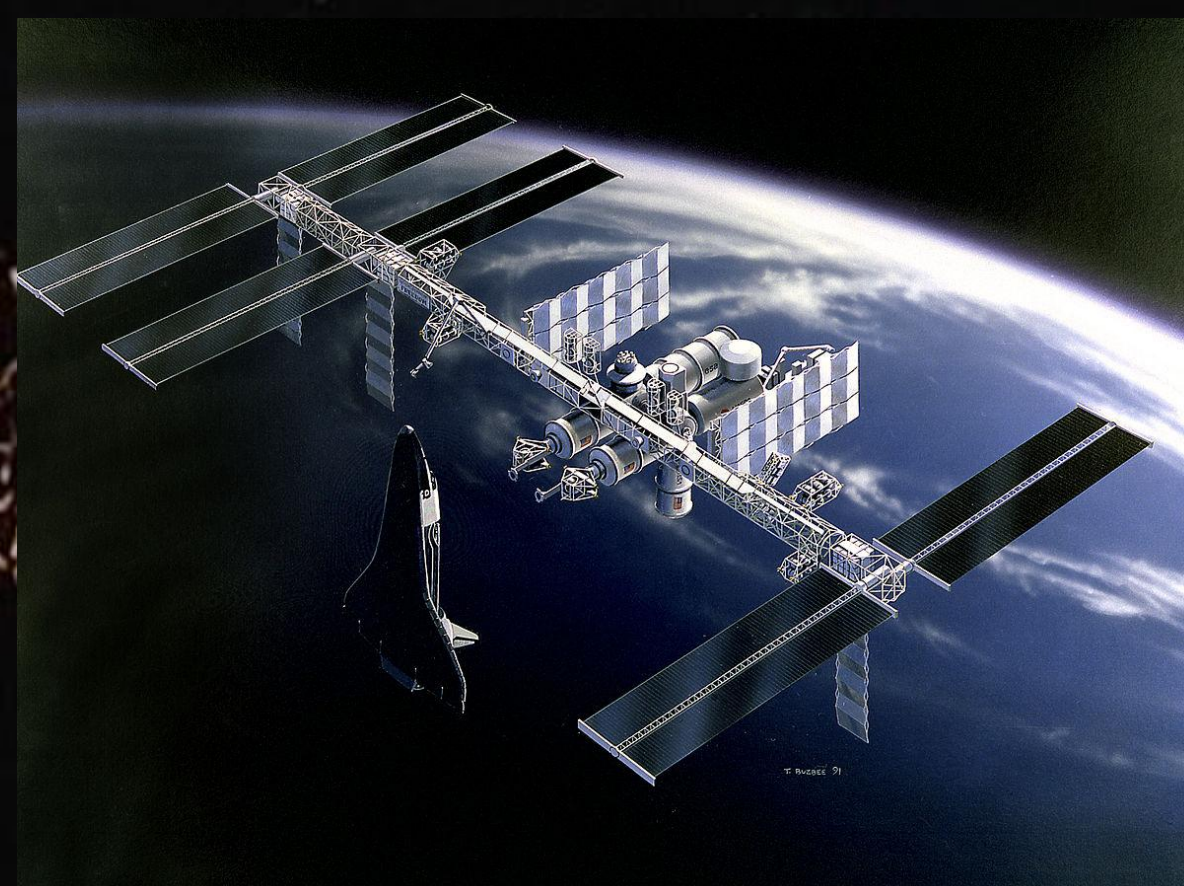
Mutual Scientific Advancement

## Competition:

Drive towards Technological Superiority

## Investing in the Future:

Private Investors



## Acknowledgements

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