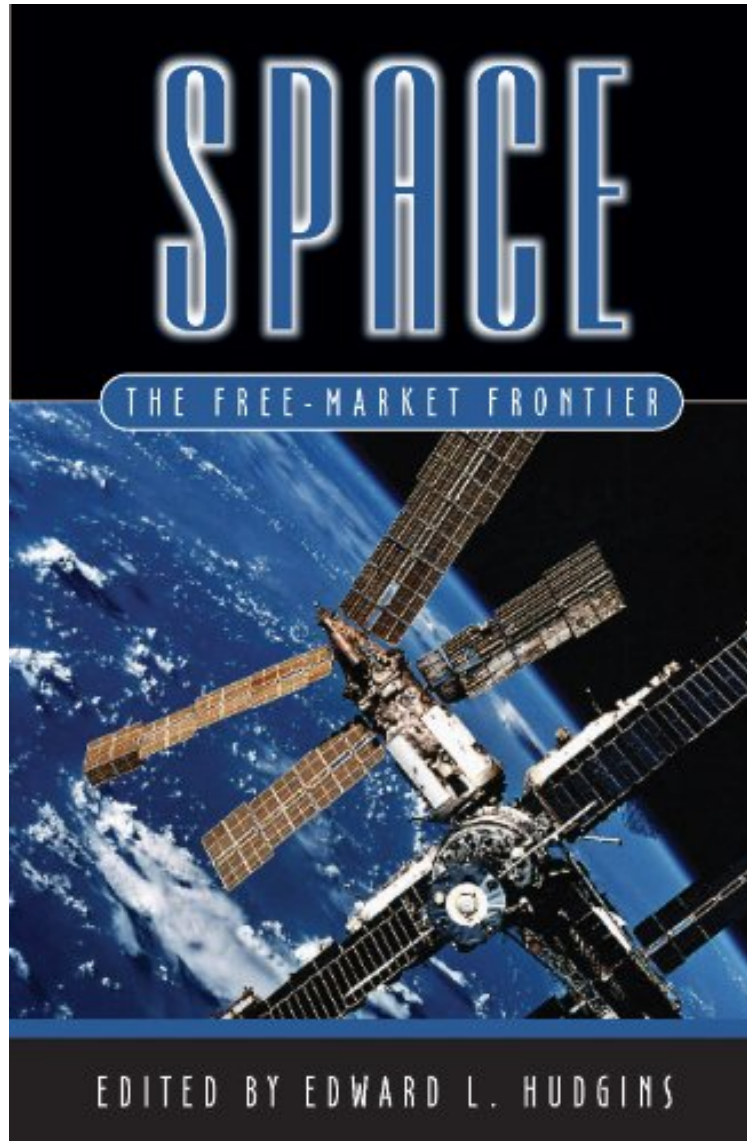


Space: The Free-Market Frontier

Edward L. Hudgins

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Edward L. Hudgins : Space: The Free-Market Frontier before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Space: The Free-Market Frontier:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy hmeeksI like it best space I have seen0 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Another spin on socializing costs/risks and privatizing profitsBy J GwinnWhat else to expect from a Cato Institute publication? They support the corporatism of space as the last frontier.11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Where No Capitalist Has Gone BeforeBy Neil DeRosaA review of Space the Free Market FrontierAlthough the Cato Institute, the publisher of this book, did not misrepresent its contents, I was

expecting something different. I was hoping for more of a "future of space science" tome so that I could find out more about the specific space technologies which will ultimately work. (The shuttle program obviously has serious problems). What I found instead was a collection of scholarly essays, mostly centering on the economics of the issue, to be read by congressmen and policy wonks. There is nothing wrong with that, of course. But personally, I would have preferred something more in line with G. Harry Stine's book, *Halfway to Anywhere: Achieving America's Destiny in Space*, or at least an essay or two picking up where Stine left off in 1996. I'm especially interested in knowing more about the state of the art of single stage to orbit (SSTO) technology. I didn't find much along that line. What I did find, however, and what made the book more than worth the purchase price was a lucid essay by Dennis A. Tito, the American Businessman who paid his own way to fulfil his lifelong dream of going into space. It was a colorful, competent, and descriptive view of what it would be like for a regular person to go into space. Having been rebuffed by NASA, he went to the Russians who cordially welcomed him, trained him for his "mission," and gave him a very expensive vacation aboard the Russian section of the under construction International Space Station (ISS). Tito's experiences and his vision for the future of space exploration were inspirational and uplifting in the wake of the Columbia Shuttle disaster. NASA tried to scuttle Tito's adventure, and that same massive bureaucracy has probably succeeded in scuttling the shuttle program. The solution seems clear to me; we need more free enterprise. Follow the model used in the development of aviation in the 20th century. If you agree with that statement, buy this book.

In Space: The Free-Market Frontier, leading experts analyze how we can move from the current situation of limited access to space and truly make space a place where people can work, play, and live. This book considers how we arrived at our current situation, what signs hold the promise of a free-market future, and which policy changes might enable space to become the next free-market frontier.