



# Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster

By Allan J. McDonald



**Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster** By Allan J. McDonald

On a cold January morning in 1986, NASA launched the Space Shuttle *Challenger*, despite warnings against doing so by many individuals, including Allan McDonald. The fiery destruction of *Challenger* on live television moments after launch remains an indelible image in the nation's collective memory.

In *Truth, Lies, and O-Rings*, McDonald, a skilled engineer and executive, relives the tragedy from where he stood at Launch Control Center. As he fought to draw attention to the real reasons behind the disaster, he was the only one targeted for retribution by both NASA and his employer, Morton Thiokol, Inc., makers of the shuttle's solid rocket boosters. In this whistle-blowing yet rigorous and fair-minded book, McDonald, with the assistance of internationally distinguished aerospace historian James R. Hansen, addresses *all* of the factors that led to the accident, some of which were never included in NASA's Failure Team report submitted to the Presidential Commission.

*Truth, Lies, and O-Rings* is the first look at the *Challenger* tragedy and its aftermath from someone who was on the inside, recognized the potential disaster, and tried to prevent it. It also addresses the early warnings of very severe debris issues from the first two post-*Challenger* flights, which ultimately resulted in the loss of *Columbia* some fifteen years later.

 [Download Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shutt ...pdf](#)

# Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster

By Allan J. McDonald

## Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald

On a cold January morning in 1986, NASA launched the Space Shuttle *Challenger*, despite warnings against doing so by many individuals, including Allan McDonald. The fiery destruction of *Challenger* on live television moments after launch remains an indelible image in the nation's collective memory.

In *Truth, Lies, and O-Rings*, McDonald, a skilled engineer and executive, relives the tragedy from where he stood at Launch Control Center. As he fought to draw attention to the real reasons behind the disaster, he was the only one targeted for retribution by both NASA and his employer, Morton Thiokol, Inc., makers of the shuttle's solid rocket boosters. In this whistle-blowing yet rigorous and fair-minded book, McDonald, with the assistance of internationally distinguished aerospace historian James R. Hansen, addresses *all* of the factors that led to the accident, some of which were never included in NASA's Failure Team report submitted to the Presidential Commission.

*Truth, Lies, and O-Rings* is the first look at the *Challenger* tragedy and its aftermath from someone who was on the inside, recognized the potential disaster, and tried to prevent it. It also addresses the early warnings of very severe debris issues from the first two post-*Challenger* flights, which ultimately resulted in the loss of *Columbia* some fifteen years later.

## Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #97420 in eBooks
- Published on: 2012-03-11
- Released on: 2012-03-11
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shutt ...pdf](#)

---

**Download and Read Free Online Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald**

---

## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

We all watched in shock and disbelief when Challenger was lost. Probably no one felt more disappointment and regret than Allan McDonald, who had warned us not to launch that day. His story tells of loss, grief, and the eventual rebuilding and recovery."--Robert "Hoot" Gibson, former Space Shuttle pilot and commander "A major contribution to a difficult episode in the history of human spaceflight."--Roger D. Launius, Division of Space History, Smithsonian Institution "McDonald tells the heartbreak tale of how he saw his words of warning ignored, and the fateful consequences of that decision."--Donald C. Elder III, Eastern New Mexico University

### **From the Back Cover**

#### **A Popular Mechanics Best Book**

#### **Winner of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Gardner-Lasser Aerospace History Literature Award**

#### **Finalist for the American Astronautical Society's Eugene M. Emme Astronautical Literature Award**

"We all watched in shock and disbelief when *Challenger* was lost. Probably no one felt more disappointment and regret than Allan McDonald, who had warned us not to launch that day. His story tells of loss, grief, and the eventual rebuilding and recovery."—Robert "Hoot" Gibson, former Space Shuttle pilot and commander

"A major contribution to a difficult episode in the history of human spaceflight."—Roger D. Launius, Division of Space History, Smithsonian Institution

"There have been many accounts of the circumstances surrounding the loss of the Space Shuttle *Challenger* on 28 January 1986, but few, if any, give as much of an insider's view as this book."—*Quest*

"McDonald argues convincingly that the *Challenger* accident need not have happened, had his warnings been heeded; therein lies the tragedy."—*Space Policy*

"A major contribution to the literature of the management of technology as well as to the history of the space program."—*Choice*

"Whistle-blowing yet rigorous and fair-minded book."—*Spaceflight*

"An even-handed take on an American aerospace tragedy."—*Book News*

"Recounts the decision to launch *Challenger*, the investigation of the accident, and the return of the shuttle to space flight. McDonald's book is, like the shuttle itself, a massive, complex, and fascinating work."—*Florida Historical Quarterly*

Allan J. McDonald retired as vice president and technical director for advanced technology programs at ATK

Thiokol Propulsion in 2001. He was the director of the Space Shuttle Solid Rocket Motor Project at the time of the *Challenger* accident and, later, vice president of engineering for space operations during the redesign and requalification of the solid rocket motors. James R. Hansen, professor of history and director of the Honors College at Auburn University, is the author of *First Man: The Life of Neil Armstrong*.

## About the Author

**Allan J. McDonald** retired as vice president and technical director for advanced technology programs at ATK Thiokol Propulsion in 2001. He was the director of the Space Shuttle Solid Rocket Motor Project at the time of the *Challenger* accident and, later, vice president of engineering for space operations during the redesign and requalification of the solid rocket motors. **James R. Hansen**, professor of history and director of the Honors College at Auburn University, is the author of *First Man: The Life of Neil Armstrong*.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### William Coker:

In other case, little folks like to read book Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster. You can choose the best book if you'd prefer reading a book. Provided that we know about how is important any book Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster. You can add understanding and of course you can around the world with a book. Absolutely right, due to the fact from book you can recognize everything! From your country till foreign or abroad you will end up known. About simple thing until wonderful thing you may know that. In this era, we can open a book or maybe searching by internet device. It is called e-book. You can use it when you feel bored stiff to go to the library. Let's examine.

#### Sharon Garon:

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information these days can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even an issue. What people must be consider if those information which is inside former life are challenging be find than now could be taking seriously which one is suitable to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you have it as your main information you will see huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen with you if you take Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster as your daily resource information.

#### Sergio Espinoza:

Exactly why? Because this Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will surprise you with the secret this inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who write the book in such remarkable way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book have such as help

improving your expertise and your critical thinking method. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

**Anna Hart:**

As a college student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher inquired them to go to the library or even make summary for some reserve, they are complained. Just little students that has reading's spirit or real their interest. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to the library. They go to there but nothing reading significantly. Any students feel that looking at is not important, boring along with can't see colorful photos on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important in your case. As we know that on this era, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster can make you feel more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald  
#0F1IPSVJ4U2**

# **Read Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald for online ebook**

Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald books to read online.

## **Online Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald ebook PDF download**

**Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald Doc**

**Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald MobiPocket**

**Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald EPub**

**0F1IPSVJ4U2: Truth, Lies, and O-Rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster By Allan J. McDonald**