



DOWN EPISODE 5
TO EARTH



Out of the Bubble

1
00:00:00,506 --> 00:00:18,626
[Music]

2
00:00:19,126 --> 00:00:20,666
>> My first flight
was two weeks,

3
00:00:20,876 --> 00:00:21,976
and a lot had to get done.

4
00:00:21,976 --> 00:00:24,606
I distinctly remember
the point when I stopped

5
00:00:24,606 --> 00:00:26,516
and thought, "I did it.

6
00:00:26,516 --> 00:00:28,126
I'm here. My goal was
to be an astronaut,

7
00:00:28,126 --> 00:00:29,436
and now I'm in space."

8
00:00:29,436 --> 00:00:30,936
I remember seeing
the beauty of Earth,

9
00:00:31,076 --> 00:00:33,816
but I don't remember any
more profound thoughts

10
00:00:33,816 --> 00:00:34,846
about it at that point.

11
00:00:34,846 --> 00:00:37,086
I think it was when I got
into my long-duration flight

12

00:00:37,136 --> 00:00:39,476

and spent a little more time
that I really just started

13

00:00:39,476 --> 00:00:40,976

to take it in a little bit more.

14

00:00:41,516 --> 00:00:49,646

[Music]

15

00:00:50,146 --> 00:00:53,556

The entire experience is
actually very surreal.

16

00:00:53,756 --> 00:00:56,246

First, you're launched on a
rocket and you're pulling Gs

17

00:00:56,246 --> 00:00:57,896

as you're going out
of the atmosphere.

18

00:00:57,896 --> 00:00:59,496

You're looking at the
Earth for the first time.

19

00:00:59,496 --> 00:01:00,996

You're floating.

20

00:01:00,996 --> 00:01:04,206

You're, everything is different,
and it just is all just

21

00:01:04,366 --> 00:01:08,446

such a different experience that
it almost doesn't seem real.

22

00:01:08,726 --> 00:01:11,476

In fact, when I did my Space

Shuttle flight for two weeks

23

00:01:11,976 --> 00:01:14,106
in 2008, when I got back,

24

00:01:14,456 --> 00:01:16,926
you could have convinced
me I never went, probably,

25

00:01:16,926 --> 00:01:17,646
if there weren't pictures.

26

00:01:17,766 --> 00:01:20,116
This experience is so
unusual and so different

27

00:01:20,116 --> 00:01:23,356
than anything you've ever done
in your life that it's hard

28

00:01:23,356 --> 00:01:25,676
to grasp it all, and I
was very excited, then,

29

00:01:25,676 --> 00:01:28,176
when I got assigned to a long
duration, because I thought

30

00:01:28,176 --> 00:01:30,446
that it's going to
burn in my memory

31

00:01:30,486 --> 00:01:32,296
and it was the same thing.

32

00:01:32,296 --> 00:01:34,576
I came back and my
memories were there,

33

00:01:34,576 --> 00:01:36,796
but it almost didn't seem real.

34

00:01:37,516 --> 00:01:47,646
[Music]

35

00:01:48,146 --> 00:01:49,586
Looking at the Earth
for the first time,

36

00:01:49,956 --> 00:01:52,886
you just notice the
vibrancy of it.

37

00:01:53,156 --> 00:01:53,716
It's so bright.

38

00:01:54,186 --> 00:01:55,196
Pictures don't do it justice.

39

00:01:55,686 --> 00:01:57,606
It's equivalent to
me backpacking

40

00:01:57,606 --> 00:02:00,806
out in the mountains, where
you're trekking along,

41

00:02:00,806 --> 00:02:01,926
and then you come to a clearing

42

00:02:02,306 --> 00:02:04,926
and you're overlooking some
valley and the sun is setting

43

00:02:04,926 --> 00:02:08,466
and it is, you're, like, how
could this get any prettier?

44

00:02:08,466 --> 00:02:11,136

And you take a picture, and
then you go back and look

45

00:02:11,136 --> 00:02:13,636

at the pictures later, and you
never had that feeling again.

46

00:02:13,636 --> 00:02:16,226

It never brings about
the feeling that it did.

47

00:02:16,226 --> 00:02:18,726

And same with watching a
beautiful sunset or sunrise.

48

00:02:19,066 --> 00:02:21,746

I have not seen a picture
that gives me the same feeling

49

00:02:21,896 --> 00:02:24,226

that I felt when I
looked with my own eyes.

50

00:02:25,516 --> 00:02:30,566

[Music]

51

00:02:31,066 --> 00:02:33,716

It started to make me understand
that everything is connected.

52

00:02:34,226 --> 00:02:35,356

What is happening in the ocean

53

00:02:35,356 --> 00:02:39,226

over here can affect what is
happening on land over here.

54

00:02:39,506 --> 00:02:43,876

It's just all one being,

and it's all interconnected,

55

00:02:44,186 --> 00:02:47,646

and so I think we tend
to live in our bubble

56

00:02:47,976 --> 00:02:53,146

of our world that's here,
and it's hard to think

57

00:02:53,146 --> 00:02:55,396

about other people on the
other side of the world

58

00:02:55,936 --> 00:02:57,626

and be empathetic
toward them, really,

59

00:02:57,946 --> 00:02:59,956

because you don't know them and
you don't know their situations.

60

00:03:00,226 --> 00:03:04,786

And I've found seeing Earth
really changing that perspective

61

00:03:04,936 --> 00:03:09,736

for me and listening to a news
story in the morning and flying

62

00:03:09,736 --> 00:03:12,336

over that particular part of
the world in the afternoon,

63

00:03:13,236 --> 00:03:17,496

it really affected me,
and then just realizing,

64

00:03:18,756 --> 00:03:21,076

I mean, that's home.

65

00:03:21,196 --> 00:03:23,246

Often, we think,
"Home," and, you know,

66

00:03:23,296 --> 00:03:24,636

right now home is
Houston, Texas,

67

00:03:24,886 --> 00:03:26,866

and childhood home is Minnesota.