



SHANNON WALKER

NASA ASTRONAUT

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00:00:00,480 --> 00:00:07,680

I always wanted to be an astronaut. I just turned
four when we first landed on the Moon and I have

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very distinct memory of my parents taking
me and my older sister out into the backyard

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and the Moon was rising over our house and they
pointed up there and said, 'We have people there,' and

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even at four I thought that just sounded like the
best idea ever. We have been given the scientific

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knowledge, the technical ability and the materials
to pursue the exploration of the universe.

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To ignore these great resources would
be a corruption of a god-given ability.

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I had seen a new class of astronauts that had
been hired for the space shuttle and I was reading

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in the newspaper what their qualifications were
and just going through some of them I realized

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I can do that and that was a big turning point.

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Shannon Walker Crew-1 Mission Specialist

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I'm Dr. Shannon Walker, NASA astronaut, and I am getting

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ready to fly on the Crew-1 mission to the International Space Station.

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00:01:05,840 --> 00:01:11,760
Crew-1 is the first operational mission of the Crew Dragon vehicle to

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the International Space Station. I was not expecting the call to be assigned and so

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00:01:17,840 --> 00:01:25,840
anytime you get a flight assignment it's tremendously exciting.

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I spent six months on the station previously in 2010 and I am so looking forward to getting back

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there and having another six months on the space station. There are so many things that you could

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do on station. What I like about it is every day really is different. You get up and you may

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be doing a biological experiment one day, you may be doing maintenance on equipment the next day,

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and then the day following that you'll be doing some sort of experiment in chemistry.

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What I have found being part of the International
Space Station program, and not just Russia but our

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colleagues in Japan and Europe and Canada, is
that underneath it all we all have the same

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00:02:04,720 --> 00:02:12,080

goals and we all have the same passions. The Dragon
spacecraft represents to me as just a continuing

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evolution of better computing power that's, you
know, evolved over the years and different ways

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that the crew can interact with the spacecraft.
SpaceX is a very interesting company. There are

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so many young people, I always imagine it
to be like it was in the early Apollo days

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at NASA with so many young engineers so passionate
about what they are doing. The important thing is

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we both have learned from each other and now
we've got a very strong bond on what we want

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to accomplish and how we need to accomplish it
together. I do believe that human space flight