



ASTRONAUT

**ANNE  
McCLAIN**



1  
00:00:00,400 --> 00:00:10,390

[Music]

2  
00:00:14,070 --> 00:00:11,910

i think if anything i probably am a

3  
00:00:15,589 --> 00:00:14,080

little bit of an impractical dreamer

4  
00:00:17,510 --> 00:00:15,599

you know be really unrealistic about

5  
00:00:19,830 --> 00:00:17,520

your dreams just be really realistic

6  
00:00:20,950 --> 00:00:19,840

about your path

7  
00:00:23,109 --> 00:00:20,960

when i was a little girl growing up in

8  
00:00:24,550 --> 00:00:23,119

spokane washington becoming an astronaut

9  
00:00:25,670 --> 00:00:24,560

like nobody did that there was no

10  
00:00:27,109 --> 00:00:25,680

there's nobody that i could look to and

11  
00:00:27,990 --> 00:00:27,119

say that person walked the path and i'm

12  
00:00:29,669 --> 00:00:28,000

about to go walk

13  
00:00:31,910 --> 00:00:29,679

the first step i took out of spokane was

14

00:00:33,110 --> 00:00:31,920

to go to west point that was a huge leap

15

00:00:34,950 --> 00:00:33,120

out of my comfort zone

16

00:00:36,229 --> 00:00:34,960

as i was flying across the country for

17

00:00:36,870 --> 00:00:36,239

the first time ever going to new york

18

00:00:38,630 --> 00:00:36,880

city

19

00:00:39,830 --> 00:00:38,640

i remember thinking like if i had the

20

00:00:41,350 --> 00:00:39,840

opportunity to get off this plane and

21

00:00:41,910 --> 00:00:41,360

not do this i probably would have taken

22

00:00:45,110 --> 00:00:41,920

it

23

00:00:46,549 --> 00:00:45,120

but you pushed through that

24

00:00:48,630 --> 00:00:46,559

i remember sitting on the airplane and

25

00:00:49,270 --> 00:00:48,640

flying down to nasa for an astronaut

26

00:00:51,029 --> 00:00:49,280

interview

27

00:00:53,189 --> 00:00:51,039

and i had that exact same feeling as

28

00:00:54,150 --> 00:00:53,199

when i was flying to west point as an 18

29

00:00:56,549 --> 00:00:54,160

year old kid

30

00:00:57,910 --> 00:00:56,559

and it was like maybe this is where i've

31

00:00:59,750 --> 00:00:57,920

reached too far maybe this is where i've

32

00:01:01,029 --> 00:00:59,760

pushed too far this is where it all ends

33

00:01:02,069 --> 00:01:01,039

what little girls from spokane

34

00:01:03,590 --> 00:01:02,079

washington grew up to be an astronaut

35

00:01:04,869 --> 00:01:03,600

i'm just not even going to try

36

00:01:06,550 --> 00:01:04,879

and so when i say i'm an impractical

37

00:01:07,750 --> 00:01:06,560

dreamer i mean i never listen to that

38

00:01:09,109 --> 00:01:07,760

part of me that says hey you're probably

39

00:01:10,149 --> 00:01:09,119

not going to succeed at this i always

40

00:01:11,190 --> 00:01:10,159

listen to the part that said well

41

00:01:14,070 --> 00:01:11,200

somebody's going to

42

00:01:16,710 --> 00:01:14,080

maybe it's going to be you we have

43

00:01:18,950 --> 00:01:16,720

liftoff of ann mclean blasting through

44

00:01:21,270 --> 00:01:18,960

the kazakh sky to the international

45

00:01:22,710 --> 00:01:21,280

space station

46

00:01:24,390 --> 00:01:22,720

you know i've always been so focused on

47

00:01:25,670 --> 00:01:24,400

my goals and i've always just sprinted

48

00:01:29,030 --> 00:01:25,680

toward those goals

49

00:01:29,830 --> 00:01:29,040

and when i look back at all the

50

00:01:33,030 --> 00:01:29,840

achievements

51  
00:01:35,270 --> 00:01:33,040  
remember it's the people that i did them

52  
00:01:36,789 --> 00:01:35,280  
with

53  
00:01:38,630 --> 00:01:36,799  
the person that wins the rugby match is

54  
00:01:40,390 --> 00:01:38,640  
the one that despite all of those hits

55  
00:01:42,469 --> 00:01:40,400  
despite all of the contact

56  
00:01:44,069 --> 00:01:42,479  
actually thinks 10 steps ahead thinks

57  
00:01:46,630 --> 00:01:44,079  
five steps ahead as a team

58  
00:01:48,310 --> 00:01:46,640  
and it's a strategy game now working

59  
00:01:49,749 --> 00:01:48,320  
here as an astronaut

60  
00:01:52,389 --> 00:01:49,759  
one of the toughest things that we do

61  
00:01:53,429 --> 00:01:52,399  
are space walks you have got to stay so

62  
00:01:55,030 --> 00:01:53,439  
mentally tuned in

63  
00:01:57,190 --> 00:01:55,040

you have to know that you can push your

64

00:01:59,350 --> 00:01:57,200

body further than you think you can

65

00:02:00,870 --> 00:01:59,360

and i'm holding on to a handrail on the

66

00:02:03,190 --> 00:02:00,880

international space station

67

00:02:04,469 --> 00:02:03,200

and i'm looking out at the vast space

68

00:02:06,789 --> 00:02:04,479

and i looked back and i

69

00:02:08,790 --> 00:02:06,799

felt like this was my planet i was

70

00:02:11,510 --> 00:02:08,800

attached to it through gravity

71

00:02:12,630 --> 00:02:11,520

and i felt a closeness to the earth and

72

00:02:14,710 --> 00:02:12,640

i also realized

73

00:02:17,670 --> 00:02:14,720

how much more we have to explore we

74

00:02:19,670 --> 00:02:17,680

haven't even started yet

75

00:02:23,400 --> 00:02:19,680

our destiny is always to go and see

76

00:02:32,070 --> 00:02:23,410

what's further and what's next

77

00:02:36,790 --> 00:02:33,830

if you enjoyed this video and would like