



'WHY DOES NASA EXIST?'

– WILLIAM SHATNER READS RAY BRADBURY

1
00:00:01,001 --> 00:00:03,003
Why does NASA exist?

2
00:00:03,670 --> 00:00:05,505
Why do we exist?

3
00:00:06,172 --> 00:00:11,343
Why does life exist upon this strange and lonely planet?

4
00:00:11,343 --> 00:00:14,345
How did we arrive and for what reason?

5
00:00:14,846 --> 00:00:20,350
An age-old question. One that each of us at one time or another has asked.

6
00:00:20,350 --> 00:00:24,020
Each time the Universe responds with silence.

7
00:00:24,520 --> 00:00:30,858
NASA stands before that silence and probes that mystery.

8
00:00:30,858 --> 00:00:39,699
We stand with NASA in response to the incredible miracle of impossible life on an insensate world.

9
00:00:41,033 --> 00:00:44,836
We move back to a Moon that we wish we had never deserted.

10
00:00:44,836 --> 00:00:56,012
We move onward to Mars to establish a base and then a community and finally a miniature civilization on its earth.

11
00:00:56,012 --> 00:01:03,684
All this will be done not as a technological feat, a military exercise, or as a display of human vanity.

12
00:01:03,684 --> 00:01:17,028
We do it because NASA has realized that the Universe which extends for billions of light years in all directions

13
00:01:18,029 --> 00:01:19,363

Unless what?

14

00:01:21,198 --> 00:01:27,837

Unless there are observers and caretakers of that stunning interstellar display.

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00:01:27,837 --> 00:01:34,175

The Universe demands to be noticed, to be seen, and dutifully noted.

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00:01:34,175 --> 00:01:46,685

What use all those incredible firework dimensions if no eye fixes and reflects, no brain takes notes, no heart m

17

00:01:47,686 --> 00:01:53,857

NASA answers the silent cry of the Cosmos for recognition.

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00:01:53,857 --> 00:02:00,696

NASA is the witness and we fellow witnesses to the endless deeps.

19

00:02:01,363 --> 00:02:16,342

NASA's activities are "our" activities. The purpose of life on Earth is to see, to know, and to tell what the Cosmo

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00:02:16,342 --> 00:02:31,020

Without us human beings, without NASA, the Universe would be unseen, unknown, untouched. A mindless ab

21

00:02:31,020 --> 00:02:40,861

So NASA in the coming years will be chief witness and we as fellow observers, celebrants to the cause.

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00:02:40,861 --> 00:02:53,672

NASA and we have been given the job by genetic accident and surprise of crying Lo! to an unsolvable territory

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00:02:53,672 --> 00:03:03,012

NASA and we do this to see, to know, and to prevail. Life one day on Earth will vanish through intemperate hea

24

00:03:03,012 --> 00:03:09,851

We prepare ourselves for the Time of Going Away to other worlds, to other stars.

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00:03:09,851 --> 00:03:16,690

Why? Because we love and value this life and living that has been given to us.

26

00:03:19,525 --> 00:03:24,663

Ours the obligation and to see and know and try to understand.

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00:03:24,663 --> 00:03:36,672

First then, the Moon, then threshold Mars, and one far future day to landfall some world adrift near Alpha Cent