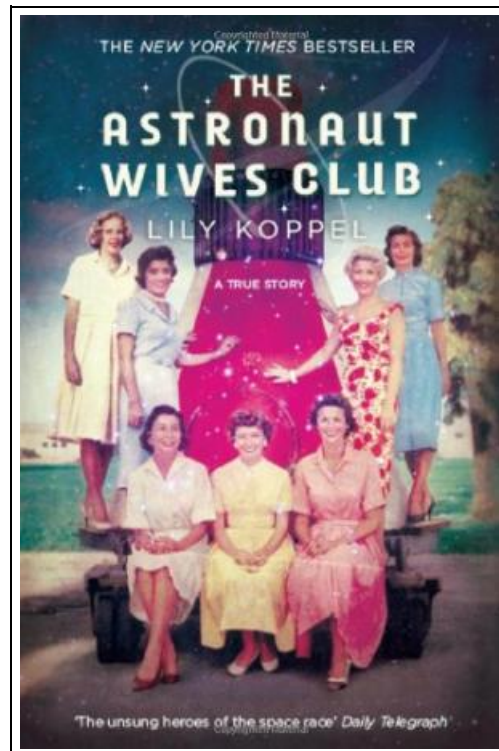


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THE ASTRONAUT WIVES CLUB: A TRUE STORY

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Headline. 1 Paperback(s), 2013. soft. Book Condition: New. As the Mercury Seven astronauts were each launched into space, television cameras focused on the brave smiles of their young wives, transformed overnight from military spouses into American royalty. They had tea with Jackie Kennedy, appeared on the cover of Life magazine, and grew into fashion icons. Together they formed the Astronaut Wives Club, supporting one another with cocktails, coffee, and friendship. The author of The Red Leather Diary here gives us a mosaic snapshot of the man-to-the-moon era through these women; as their celebrity rose and as divorce and disaster began to touch their lives the wives continued to rally together, forming bonds that have endured over half a century. "Breezy and entertaining. More than 50 years after its inception, many of us now take the space program for granted, but [Lily] Koppel reminds readers just how bold and innovative it felt in the Sputnik era, and how mysterious the wilderness of space remains. Koppel is chronicling a cultural moment more than any particular person, and in this she excels. The details are superb, from the ham loaves the women cooked to the Virginia Slims they chain-smoked, the fur hot pants and the Pucci dresses they wore, the luaus and shrimp-boil parties they threw, and the Mercury-capsule-shaped community swimming pool they shared."Washington Post 301.

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