

Season 2 Episode 10 - Let's Go Explore Venus!

Release Date: 21 January 2015

67 minutes 54 seconds

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Thread(s): Space Exploration

Host: Paul Carr

Paul talks to astrobiologist David Grinspoon and NASA scientist Geoffrey Landis about the exploration of Venus, present and future.

- Intro Announcement
- Host intro to show topic
- Guest bios
- Grinspoon/Landis discussion of Venus exploration
- Host wrapup
- Begging, nagging and announcements
- Music - "Think for Yourself" by George Hrab
- Outro announcement

Links

The Episode and its Subject Matter

[Geoffrey Landis' previous appearance](#) (S1, E2)

[David Grinspoon's previous appearance](#) (S1, E4)

[Venus Express](#)

[Venus Exploration Analysis Group](#) (VEXAG)

[Venus Climate Mission Concept Study](#)

[*A Sulfur-Based Survival Strategy for Putative Phototrophic Life in the Venusian Atmosphere*](#)

[Conceptual Venus Mission Design](#)

[*Robotic Exploration of the Surface and Atmosphere of Venus*](#)

[The Script for this Episode](#)

Guest Bios



[Geoffrey A. Landis](#) is a scientist and a science fiction writer. As a scientist, he is researcher working at the NASA John Glenn Research Center. He works on projects related to advanced power and propulsion systems for space and planetary exploration, and development of technologies for future missions. He is currently a member of the science team for the Mars Exploration rovers mission, which is directing the operation of the "Opportunity" rover on the surface of Mars, and was a member of the Sojourner rover team on the Mars Pathfinder mission in 1997. In 2005 and 2006, he was the Ronald E. McNair Visiting Professor of Astronautics at MIT. He holds eight patents, and is the author of 400 scientific papers on subjects ranging from interstellar travel to semiconductor physics.

As a writer, Geoffrey Landis won the Hugo award for best short story in 1992 for the story "A Walk in the Sun," and again in 2003 for the story "Falling onto Mars." He won the Nebula award in 1990 for "Ripples in the Dirac Sea". His novel MARS CROSSING from Tor books won the Locus award for best first novel in 2001. His many science fiction stories has been translated into twenty two languages,



[David Grinspoon](#), Senior Scientist at Planetary Science Institute, is an astrobiologist who studies the possible conditions for life on other planets. In November 2012, he began a one-year appointment as the inaugural Baruch S. Blumberg/NASA Chair in Astrobiology at the John W. Kluge Center of the United States Library of Congress, where he is currently a Distinguished Visiting Scholar, researching and writing a book about the human influence on Earth, seen in cosmic perspective. He is also Adjunct Professor of Astrophysical and Planetary Science at the University of Colorado. He is a frequent advisor to NASA on space exploration strategy, and is Co-Investigator on an instrument that is currently operating on the Curiosity Rover on Mars. He serves as Interdisciplinary Scientist on the European Space Agency's Venus Express spacecraft. Grinspoon was awarded the 2006 Carl Sagan Medal for Public Communication of Planetary Science by the American Astronomical Society. His first book, *Venus Revealed*, was a Los Angeles Times Book Prize finalist. His 2004 book, *Lonely Planets: The Natural Philosophy of Alien Life* won the PEN Center USA Literary Award for Research Nonfiction. Grinspoon's popular writing has appeared in Slate,

ranging from Chinese through Swedish. His short story collection [IMPACT PARAMETER \(AND OTHER QUANTUM REALITIES\)](#), published by Golden Gryphon Books, was named as a notable book of 2001 by Publisher's Weekly. His most recent book is the poetry collection Iron Angels.

He lives in Berea, Ohio with his wife, writer Mary A. Turzillo, and his cats Azrael and Tyrael.

Scientific American, Natural History, The Sciences, Astronomy, Seed, the Boston Globe, the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times and Sky & Telescope Magazine where he is a contributing editor and writes the monthly "Cosmic Relief" column. Also an award-winning musician, he is currently leading the House Band of the Universe. Dr. Grinspoon has been featured on dozens of television and radio shows. His technical papers have been published in Nature, Science, and numerous other journals, and he has given invited talks at international conferences throughout the U.S., Europe, Australia and Japan.

[Geoffrey Landis Receives 2014 Heinlein Award](#)

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[DJ Spooky](#)

[George Hrab](#)

Credits

Produced and Hosted by: Paul Carr

Announcer: Erin Carr

[Reaper](#)

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