

Hoagland's Dark Mission...

Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.space.history/2007-11/msg00332.html>

- *From:* The Translucent Amoebae <transamoebae@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 20 Nov 2007 11:55:24 -0800 (PST)
-

OK— Granted that i've only read the first chapter and flipped through all the pictures, but this is a horrible book.

You know... The publishing industry throws together a few thousand children's books every year, and they are usually, very poor sellers. Even adult BEST Sellers actually sell only a few thousand copies to be a really good seller— It's just that most people don't read. A tiny fraction of the population is even functionally literate.

But my point is: These children's books, of which, very few are sold, are made with a very high degree of quality considering that each page is a full colour combination of text and graphics, Then the excuse given by Feral House Publishers that they didn't expect to sell enough of these books to make it of the highest imaginable quality; is just hooey.

This book: Dark Mission, is essentially an analysis of hundreds, if not thousands of extremely interesting, mysterious, troubling and suspicious photographs brought back from lunar missions or sent to us from interplanetary probes.

Why then: Is this book of such AMAZINGLY POOR QUALITY...!!!
The Pictures; first of all, are of amazingly poor quality, even the colour ones, on shiny paper.
And i'm not talking about the deeply suspicious ameliorations of the pictures, No— i'm saying that nearly all of them are washed out puddles of unarticulated grays.
And given that all publishing is now done with computers, and NOT typeset, there is NO reason to have these 'Photo Inserts'... All the pictures should have been integrated into the chapters with the text...!!!

Second Problem: It would be totally Fawking Wonderful if some of the vocabulary &/or terms were explained or elaborated on...
Specifically; It wouldn't be necessary to provide an appendix containing all the programing that went into some of these photographic "Enhancements", But a sidebar or column box giving us a ball park idea of how the photo was being modified to bring out hidden details would be enlightening.

Hoagland's Dark Mission...

Third: There are about a million zillion totally fascinating pictures of crazy shit on Mars, and this book doesn't include any of them...!!!
(Maybe a few, But hardly any...)

Just basically; i'm principally annoyed with the very shoddy quality of the book itself.

i would expect from Hoagland; to include all his nutty theories & elaborate conspiracies, but i was hoping for a better presentation of them.

One Star out of Seventeen.