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EUROPA The Ocean Moon

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The Ocean Moon

Search for
an Alien Biosphere

RICHARD GREENBERG

 Springer

PRAXIS

Europa, the Ocean Moon ***by Richard Greenberg***

PART I – Discovering Europa

Chapter 1 Water World

Chapter 2 Touring the Surface

Chapter 3 Politics and Intellect: Converting images into ideas and knowledge

PART II -- Tides

Chapter 4 Tides and Resonance

Chapter 5 – Tides and Rotation

Chapter 6 – Tides and Stress

Chapter 7 – Tidal Heating

Chapter 8 – Tides and Orbital Evolution

PART III -- Understanding Europa

Chapter 9 – Global Cracking and Non-Synchronous Rotation

Chapter 10 – Building Ridges

Chapter 11 – Dilation of Cracks

Chapter 12 – Strike-Slip

Chapter 13 – Return to Astypalaea

Chapter 14 – Cycloids

Chapter 15 – Rotation Revisited

Chapter 16 – Chaos

Chapter 17 – Crust Convergence

Chapter 18 – The Scars of Impact

Chapter 19 – Pits and Uplifts

PART IV - Life on Earth and Europa

Chapter 20 – The Bandwagon

Chapter 21 – The Biosphere

Chapter 22 – The Exploration to Come

Europa – The Ocean Moon tells the story of the Galileo spacecraft probe to Jupiter's moon, Europa. It provides a detailed description of the physical processes, including the dominating tidal forces, that operate on Europa, and includes a comprehensive tour of Europa using images taken by Galileo's camera.

The book then reviews and evaluates the interpretive work carried out to date, providing a philosophical discussion of the scientific process of analysing results and the pitfalls that accompany it. This discussion is integrated into an hypothesis of what Europa is like, with an examination of the astrobiological constraints on this possible biosphere, and implications for future research, exploration, and planetary biological protection,

Europa – The Ocean Moon

- provides a unique understanding of the Galileo images of Europa
- discusses the theory of tidal processes that govern its icy ridged and disrupted surface
- examines in detail the physical setting that might sustain extra-terrestrial life in Europa's ocean and icy crust

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