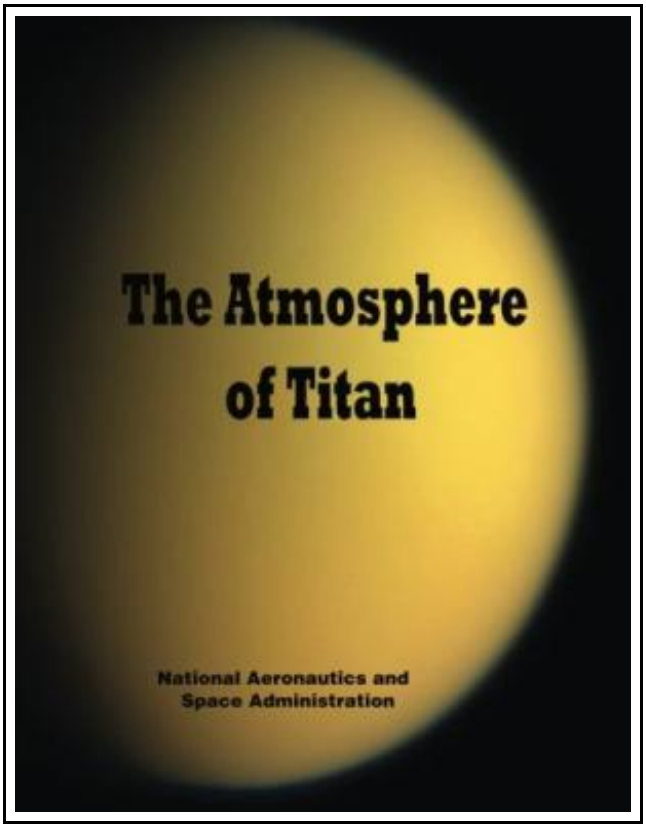
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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Titan offers a unique opportunity in solar system exploration. It is the smallest known body with an atmosphere. In terms of spacecraft entry dynamics, it has the most accessible atmosphere in the solar system. It has dark reddish clouds which are probably composed of organic compounds, falling continually to the surface. It has the highest ratio of methane to hydrogen of all known reducing atmospheres, making an environment in some respects like that of the primitive Earth at the time of the origin of life. It probably has the only surface of all the bodies beyond Mars with atmospheres that entry spacecraft can reach. In terms of planetary rotation rate, Titan s atmospheric circulation may occupy a unique niche between the dynamics of Venus and the Earth. The surface temperature may be 150-200 K or warmer, and one model suggests an ocean of liquid methane and ammonia. While at the present this is the merest speculation, the presence of life on Titan is by no means out of the question. Hydrogen in the Titanian atmosphere must be rushing away to space at a high rate, perhaps producing an enormous gas ring or comet-like tail in the vicinity of Saturn. The escaping gas must be produced from the interior of Titan, perhaps arriving into the atmosphere through methane, ammonia, and water volcanoes. A substantial improvement of our knowledge of Titan can be achieved with present instrumentation in the vicinity of the Earth -- by ultraviolet and infrared spectroscopy, infrared and microwave radiometry, and stellar occultations. Observational and modeling techniques that have been used to study the planets have just begun to be applied to Titan. Many important properties are...

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