# Johannes Kepler

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| *Somnium, sive de Astronomia Lunari* |
| Totum iter quantum est, quatuor ad summum horarum spacio absolvitur. Neque enim nobis semper occupatissimis, antea constat de tempore eundi, quam Luna ab orientis partibus ceperit deficere; quae ubi tota luxerit, nobis adhuc in itinere haerentibus, irrita redditur nostra profectio.[[1]](#footnote-2) | Great as the distance is, the entire trip is consummated in four hours at the most. For we are always very busy, and agree not to start until the moon begins to be eclipsed on its eastern side. Should it regain its full light while we are still in transit, our departure becomes futile. |
| Tam praeceps occasio efficit, vt paucos ex humana gente, nec alios, nisi nostri observantissimos comites habeamus.[[2]](#footnote-3) Ergo hominem aliquem hujus modi agminatim invadimus, omnesque subtus nitentes, in altum eum tollimus. | Because the opportunity is so fleeting, we take few human beings along, and only those who are most devoted to us. Some man of this kind, then, we seize as a group and all of us, pushing from underneath, lift him up into the heavens. |
| Prima quaeque molitio durissima ipsi accidit.[[3]](#footnote-4) Nec enim aliter torquetur ac si pulvere Bombardico excussus, montes et maria tranaret. | In every instance the take-off hits him as a severe shock, for he is hurled just as though he had been shot aloft by gunpowder to sail over mountains and seas. |
| Propterea Narcoticis et Opiatis[[4]](#footnote-5), statim in principio sopiendus est, et membratim explicandus, ne corpus a podice, caput a corpore gestetur, sed vt violentia in singula membra dividatur.[[5]](#footnote-6) | For this reason at the outset he must be lulled to sleep immediately with narcotics and opiates. His limbs must be rearranged in such a way that his torso will not be torn away from his buttocks nor his head from his body, but the shock will be distributed among his individual limbs. |
| Tunc excipit nova difficultas, ingens frigus,[[6]](#footnote-7) et prohibita respiratio, quorum illi, ingenita nobis vi, huic vero, spongiis humectis ad nares admotis, obviam imus. | Then a new difficulty follows: extreme cold and impeded breathing. The cold is relieved by a power which we are born with; the breathing, by applying damp sponges to the nostrils. |

**Links**

Originele tekst: <https://archive.org/details/den-kbd-pil-130011021345-001/page/n17/mode/1up>

Rosen, Edward (transl.) (2003). *Kepler's Somnium: The Dream, Or Posthumous Work on Lunar Astronomy.* Courier Corporation. (ISBN 9780486432823). (via Google Books).

<https://somniumproject.wordpress.com/somnium/>

1. Timing is inderdaad essentieel, zo blijkt eeuwen later, bij het lanceren van ruimteschepen. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Astronaut blijkt inderdaad een zeer exclusief beroep te zijn. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Kepler was zich blijkbaar meer bewust van G-krachten en de impact op het menselijk lichaam dan George Lucas (Star Wars); voor een meer wetenschappelijke versie van dit gegeven, zie de film *Event Horizon* (let op: het tweede deel van de film is pure horror). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Enige verdoving kan inderdaad helpen; zie bijvoorbeeld het gebruik van medicatie in de film *Interstellar*. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. De positie tijdens de lancering van raketten blijkt inderdaad een belangrijke factor in het overleven van het menselijk lichaam. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. De ruimte is koud, zéér koud, en dat had men toen blijkbaar al begrepen. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)