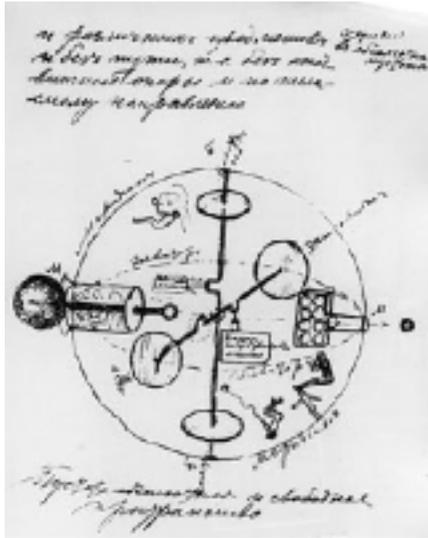


# 16 Notes on Overcoming Gravity.

1. We can't see gravity because it is an invisible force.
2. Eagles overcome gravity by employing the laws of aerodynamics.
3. The Red Hot Chili Peppers song Aeroplane includes the lyrics: "I'm overcoming gravity, I'm overcoming gravity".
4. Superman was able to overcome gravity and could leap tall buildings in a single bound, he was more powerful than a locomotive, and was said to be able to travel faster than a speeding bullet.
5. Overcoming Earth's gravity is the biggest challenge for space missions. In *From the Earth to the Moon*, 1865, by Jules Verne, three space travelers are propelled to the Moon by a giant cannon in Florida.



6. Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, a Russian schoolteacher, inspired by the novels of Jules Verne, had a vision of human beings overcoming gravity to venture beyond their home planet. Tsiolkovsky's drawing of a space vehicle, from "Free Space" (1883), shows cosmonauts in weightlessness, gyroscopes for attitude control, and an airlock for exit into free space.

7. Falsework, is a temporary scaffold-like construction employed to hold building components in place, against the pull of gravity, and until they become self-supporting. Falsework was essential in the construction of stone structures like arches and vaults.

8. In his novel *The First Men in The Moon*, 1901, H.G. Wells created a fictional element, cavorite, which acted as a screen against the effects of gravity. Dr Cavor, the inventor of cavorite, harnessed his miraculous discovery to produce a spacecraft capable of transporting himself and a companion to the moon.

9. In 1903, Wells published a short story, *The Truth About Pyecraft*, in which the morbidly obese Pyecraft swallows a weight-loss potion prepared from an ancient recipe. The effect of the potion is to screen Pyecraft from the pull of gravity but not to change his size. Becoming lighter than air he floats to the ceiling of his chambers.

10. In 1910, H. Pendexter, in *Irad Biglow's Insulated Gravity*, proposed insulated gravity as a simple means to overcome the power that keeps things on earth. "I can", he claimed, "create a vacuum and fill it with anti-gravity ozone and everything inside the space covered by that vacuum goes whizzing into the air, never to come back. Just imagine me insulating gravity over your rocky pasture".

11. In 1948, Roger Ward Babson established the Gravity Research Foundation with the purpose of stimulating research into gravity and antigravity. A conversation with Thomas Edison in 1931 had lead him to the misguided belief that birds were able to fly because their bones contained an avian antigravity chemical.

12. In 1956, J. Williams and R. Abrashkin wrote *Danny Dunn and Anti-Gravity Paint 48*. Anything painted with this antigravity liquid was unaffected by gravity and would fly out away from the earth.

13. In 1992, Russian physicist Dr Yevgeny Podkletnov published results claiming he had built a device consisting of a superconducting disc and electromagnets, which could reduce the force of gravity on an object by about 2%. However no other scientists have been able to replicate Dr. Podkletnov's claimed result. Because of this, most scientists in the field of gravitational research consider Dr. Podkletnov's result to be highly suspect.

14. In his book *Abduction to the 9th Planet*, 1993, Michel Desmarquet claims there are "certain vibrations" which neutralise the cold magnetic force of a planet, thus allowing for neutralisation of the gravitational force to occur. Desmarquet claimed to have been physically abducted to another planet by aliens using this neutralization of gravity as a form of propulsion.

15. On January 15, 2000, George A. Panichas published a book called *Growing Wings to Overcome Gravity*.

16. Claudia is an element used to power vanships and larger airships in the TV animation, *Last Exile*. It glows a light blue and is found naturally in solid form. However, while in liquid form, it generates an anti-gravity field when put through certain processes, which allows the aforementioned ships to fly. Its solid form is also used as a unit of currency, simply called a "Claudia".