

## April 2026 Book Review of *The Apollo Murders*

A very timely choice, *The Apollo Murders* by Colonel Chris Hadfield. Timely as our book club read it during the Artemis 2 flight!

*The Apollo Murders* is the first book in a fictional trilogy series that takes place in the 1970s during the Cold war with Russia. As the author writes at the beginning, “Many of these people are real. Much of this actually happened.”

Many in book club said , they never would have picked up this book to read , but once they started they were glad they read it. We also found the middle of the novel very technical and hard to understand. I counted close to 40 acronyms used , that were hard to understand! But the last third of the book was very action packed, and once the action picked up it really drove the plot forward, and everyone was on the edge of their seats. So, even if the middle was a bit dense, the payoff was definitely worth it.

Because all in book club are of an age, we remember the Apollo flights and space shuttles relating to the plot easily. And now we enter the Artemis flights.

The way Hadfield blends history and imagination really helps us connect, and makes the whole experience more personal. He has written 5 books, one children’s book, created a BBC series, a National Geographic series and a TED talk (over 10 million views). It shows how his reach extends beyond just the page – his passion and expertise really come through in everything he works on. He’s not just a flyboy!

He’s an inspiration to all Canadians, and we should be very proud of his achievements and his influence on future Canadian astronauts.

Two book club members are going to read the other books in this trilogy, (*The Defector and the Final Orbit*) and continue the adventure!

All members would give a universal recommendation to men and women, and especially anyone who likes mysteries, science or space. There is a copy in the church library.

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