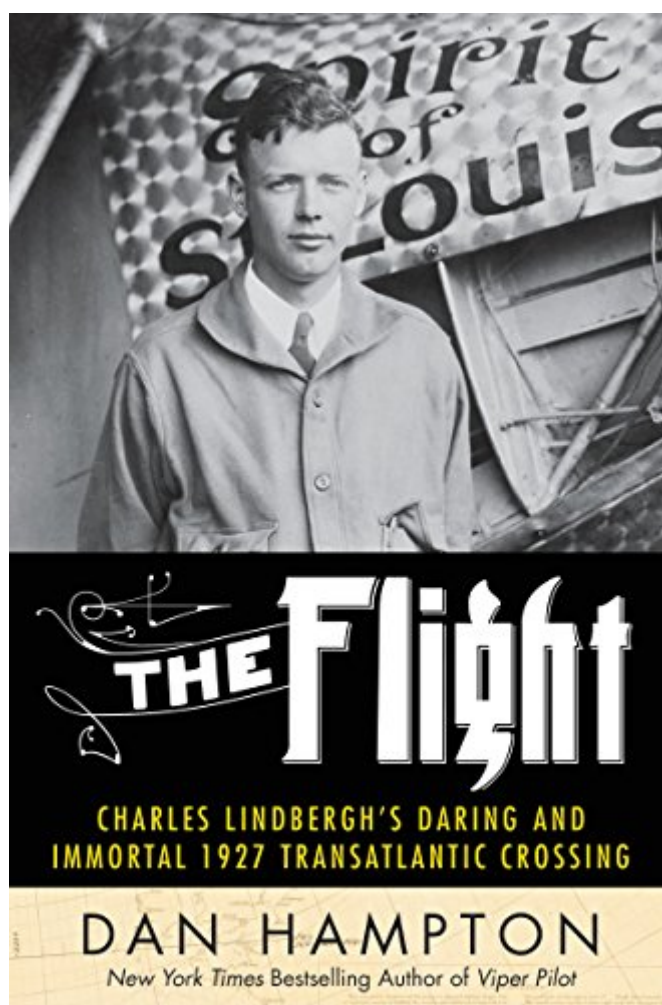


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The Flight: Charles Lindbergh's Daring And Immortal 1927 Transatlantic Crossing



Synopsis

"GRIPPING. ... AN HOUR-BY-HOUR ACCOUNT." —*WALL STREET*

JOURNAL — From one of the most decorated pilots in Air Force history comes a masterful account of Lindbergh's death-defying nonstop transatlantic flight in *Spirit of St. Louis*. On the rainy morning of May 20, 1927, a little-known American pilot named Charles A. Lindbergh climbed into his single-engine monoplane, *Spirit of St. Louis*, and prepared to take off from a small airfield on Long Island, New York. Despite his inexperience—the twenty-five-year-old Lindbergh had never before flown over open water—he was determined to win the \$25,000 Orteig Prize promised since 1919 to the first pilot to fly nonstop between New York and Paris, a terrifying adventure that had already claimed six men's lives. Ahead of him lay a 3,600-mile solo journey across the vast north Atlantic and into the unknown; his survival rested on his skill, courage, and an unassuming little aircraft with no front window. Only 500 people showed up to see him off. Thirty-three and a half hours later, a crowd of more than 100,000 mobbed *Spirit* as the audacious young American touched down in Paris, having achieved the seemingly impossible. Overnight, as he navigated by the stars through storms across the featureless ocean, news of his attempt had circled the globe, making him an international celebrity by the time he reached Europe. He returned to the United States a national hero, feted with ticker-tape parades that drew millions, bestowed every possible award from the Medal of Honor to *Time*'s "Man of the Year" (the first to be so named), commemorated on a U.S. postage stamp within months, and celebrated as the embodiment of the twentieth century and America's place in it. Acclaimed aviation historian Dan Hampton's *The Flight* is a long-overdue, flyer's-eye narrative of Lindbergh's legendary journey. A decorated fighter pilot who flew more than 150 combat missions in an F-16 and made numerous transatlantic crossings, Hampton draws on his unique perspective to bring alive the danger, uncertainty, and heroic accomplishment of Lindbergh's crossing. Hampton's deeply researched telling also incorporates a trove of primary sources, including Lindbergh's own personal diary and writings, as well as family letters and untapped aviation archives that fill out this legendary story as never before.

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Customer Reviews

It takes an author like Dan Hampton to bring the moment back to life. Combining his personal experiences as a pilot with a dedication to writing history fearlessly has resulted in a book that will leave you amazed. Dan Hampton addresses the issues of Lindbergh's beliefs early on so that the reader can focus on the flight and what it meant for aviation and for the Nation. Once you are put into the cockpit via the authors prose, history comes alive and you can feel yourself witnessing the intrepidness and iron will to complete the mission. I also appreciated Dan Hampton's candor, where other authors may have punted. If this is your first Hampton book, make sure to read the others.

Another amazing book by Dan Hampton. What I so much enjoy about his writing is his ability to haul me along for the ride. I felt like I was in that cramped cockpit fighting sleep deprivation, checking the gauges, and wondering if I was heading the right direction. This is a story about great pilot and adventurer that can only be told by someone of the same caliber and that is Dan Hampton! I also found the history and details of the time period he marriages into the story intriguing. It is just a great read. I anxiously await the next one!

This is an interesting account about the historic event which occurred 100 years ago which should not be forgotten. Lindbergh was truly an American hero and still is in my eyes (I'm in my 70's). I

remember my parents talking about the famous flight when I was a child. If you read the whole book it should put to rest the assertions that he was a "Nazi sympathizer." Why else did he actually act as a spy for the US when he visited Germany and later fly combat missions in the Pacific as a civilian? He did everything he could to contribute to the war effort during WWII and didn't get credit for it in public. The flight itself was a tremendous accomplishment at the time.

Hampton captured my heart with his first book, *Viper Pilot*, and I now look forward to reading anything written by this amazing author and Combat Veteran! I do not have a background in aviation nor did I have a previous interest in aviation before reading Hampton's memoir, but Hampton's writing style has me hooked for life. *The Flight* is another amazing book that I couldn't put down. I recommend this book along with all of Hampton's previous books to everyone.

What a super read.....you could almost feel the excitement and fear that Lindbergh experienced as he flew across the ocean.

Dan Hampton's riveting hour by hour account of how Lindbergh was successful when others died trying to be first. The book is best when detailing the flight moment by moment, but not so successful when summarizing what the 1920s were like.

I really enjoyed reading this. Mr. Hampton, a former fighter pilot, did a great job of placing us readers in the cockpit and explaining what "Slim" was doing for the 33 hour flight. Good Job explaining the technical and navigation details as most folks didn't know that the plane was a state of the art (for 1927) experimental model, one of a kind.

Easy read. Not sure how the author worked out the detail of what Lindy was going through, but at worst a very good novel. It does fill in the background of what makes a hero out of a college dropout from two generations or really messed up family background

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