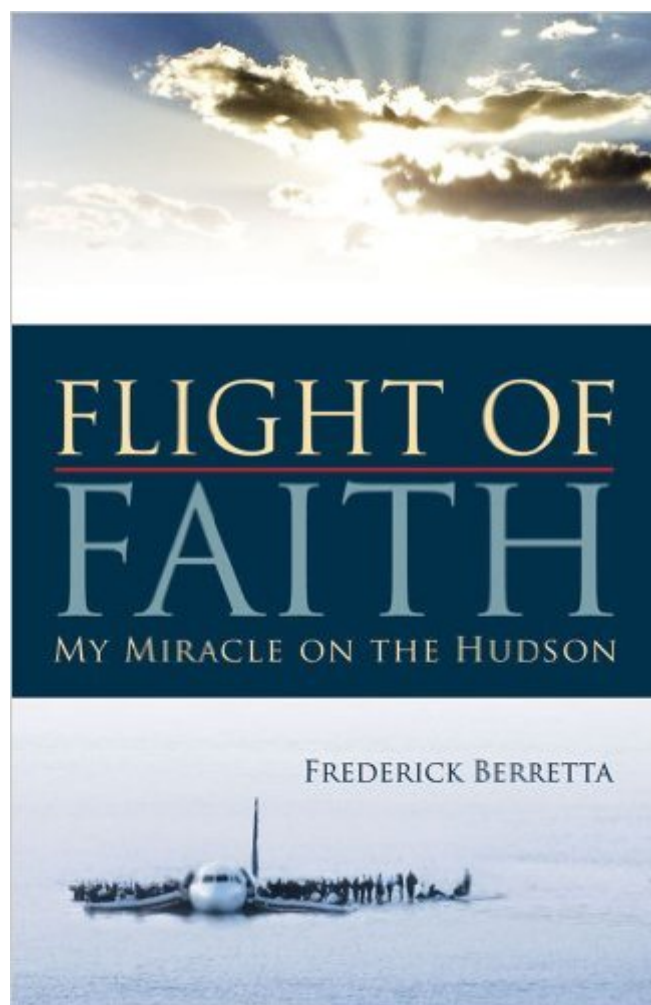


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Flight Of Faith: My Miracle On The Hudson



Synopsis

Plunged into the icy waters of the Hudson...God spared Frederick Berretta's life in an instant -- and changed his heart forever. Frederick Berretta was an amateur pilot himself, so when U.S. Airways Flight 1549 struck a flock of geese and lost both engines, minutes after takeoff from Laguardia Airport on that fateful afternoon of January 15, 2009, he knew before most of his fellow passengers that something was seriously wrong. As the roar of the jets quieted and the aircraft ceased to climb, as the pilot, Sully, guided the powerless plane towards a desperate crash landing and announced, "Brace for impact," Berretta fingered the prayer book in his pocket and tried to prepare himself for death. A multitude of thoughts flooded his mind all at once. He reminded himself that the odds of surviving a water landing were slim to none. He thought of his wife and his four children, and how they would miss him. He remembered he had just been to confession and to Mass, and he wondered if his soul would be ready to meet the Lord. And he knew he had to pray. "God, please be merciful to us, for the sake of your Son," he whispered. "Please spare us. I trust in you. Jesus, I trust in you. Mother of God, please pray for us." At that very instant, Berretta felt a "push" or "nudge" on his conscience; a state of awareness he'd never before experienced; and a keen realization that he had to do something. But what? Then God's voice sounded strong and clear in the depths of his soul: Are you going to accept My will for your life? For Frederick Berretta, the events of that fateful January day were the crystallizing moment of a lifetime of conversion. This story tells how he lost his childhood faith and as a young adult embraced a selfish, worldly life, how he suffered through family turmoil and the death of a child, and how by God's grace he slowly returned to the Church, humbled and grateful. God used the "Miracle on the Hudson" to confirm him in his faith and set him on fire to share it with others. Flight of Faith is the inspiring true story of how God works in our lives in simple and extraordinary ways.

Book Information

Paperback: 133 pages

Publisher: Saint Benedict Press (January 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1935302302

ISBN-13: 978-1935302308

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #103,951 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Aviation > Commercial #37 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism > Self Help #650 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Self Help

Customer Reviews

I did not think I would love this book, but I was very wrong. I had seen Fred Berretta speak February 2011 at a conference in Charlotte, where I live. I had never met him and still have not, but his oral account of this ordeal was riveting. You could hear a pin drop in the auditorium, which held nearly 500 souls. Yet I figured the book itself would be simply a re-telling of his experiences on a flight where no one was hurt, written by a financial type guy - an amateur. Nonetheless, something inside nudged me to order this book online. When I began reading it on an airplane, I was completely captivated from start to finish. The writing was masterful, truly. Few professional authors reach such heights of language. But the message was even more compelling. I found myself next to complete strangers choking back chuckles and tears. I desperately wished my wife was next to me so I could share my thoughts and reflections. When I was done, which only took a few hours, I wanted more. I wanted to call or email Mr. Berretta and let him know how intensely meaningful his book had been to me personally. But I held back. I wanted to give the book to the man next to me and then buy up 20 of them for people I know or may come to meet. But I have held back. A week after reading the book, I keep reflecting on it. And now I have gone to the extreme of writing a review on , which is unlike me. It is THAT kind of book. I will cherish it. For anyone who has even once thought "What is it like to know you are about to die," this answers that question with eloquence few can emulate. For anyone who has wondered where you stand with God now in your life, challenge yourself with this book. If you question whether miracles really happen, they do. This is a beautiful testimony.

Mr. Berretta definitely had a "God Moment" as a result of the "Miracle on the Hudson". For those struggling with their faith, no matter what denomination, this book will make you stop and become aware of your daily encounters and how our lives are all intertwined. We all have an effect on those we encounter daily whether we know it or not. God spoke to Mr. Berretta and changed his life. Our lives can all be changed if we but stop and pay attention to our surroundings and look and/or listen for God's presence.

Mr. Berretta is a wonderful writer and poet. I could really relate to his childhood from a divorced

family and today's pressures of family and job. I found very interesting what occurred before, during and after the "Miracle Landing". I will pass this book on to my family and friends. Thank-you Mr. Berretta for sharing your life journey with me.

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