



Miracle on the Hudson: The Survivors of Flight 1549 Tell Their Extraordinary Stories of Courage, Faith, and Determination

By *The Survivors of Flight 1549, William Prochnau, Laura Parker*

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The remarkable true story of Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger's heroic crash landing in the Hudson River, as told by the passengers who owe him their lives.

Millions watched the aftermath on television, while others witnessed the event actually happening from the windows of nearby skyscrapers. But only 155 people know firsthand what really happened on U.S. Airways Flight 1549 on January 15, 2009. Now, for the first time, the survivors detail their astounding, terrifying, and inspiring experiences on that freezing winter day in New York City. Written by two esteemed journalists, **Miracle on the Hudson** is the entire tale from takeoff to bird strike to touchdown to rescue, seen through the eyes and felt in the souls of those on board the fateful flight.

Revealing many new and compelling details, **Miracle on the Hudson** dramatically evokes the explosion and "smell of burning flesh" as both engines were destroyed by geese, the violent landing on the river that felt like a "huge car wreck," the gridlock in the aisles as the plane filled swiftly with freezing water, and the thrill of the passengers' rescue from the wings and from rafts—all of it recalled by the "cross section of America" on board.

Jay McDonald, a thirty-nine-year-old software developer, had survived brain-tumor surgery just two years earlier and now faced the unimaginable.

Tracey Wolsko, a nervous flier, suddenly became other people's rock: "Just pray. It's going to be all right." Jim Whitaker, a construction executive, reassured a nervous mother of two young children on board, only later admitting, "I was pathologically lying the whole time." As the plane started sinking, Lucille Palmer, eighty-five, told her daughter to save herself: "Just leave me!"

Featuring much more than what the media reported—moments of chaos in addition to stoicism and common sense, and the fortuitous mistakes and quick

instincts that saved lives that otherwise would have been lost—**Miracle on the Hudson** is the chronicle of one of the most phenomenal feel-good stories of recent years, one that could have been a nightmare and instead became a stirring narrative of heroism and hope for our times.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

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Product Description

In this heart-stopping, page-turning tale of fear, heroism, and redemption, the passengers of the Hudson River crash landing tell their remarkable stories.

Millions watched the aftermath on television, while others witnessed the event actually happening from the windows of nearby skyscrapers. But only 155 people know firsthand what really happened on U.S. Airways Flight 1549 on January 15, 2009. Now, for the first time, the survivors detail their astounding, terrifying, and inspiring experiences on that freezing winter day in New York City. Written by two esteemed journalists, **Miracle on the Hudson** is the entire tale from takeoff to bird strike to touchdown to rescue, seen through the eyes and felt in the souls of those on board the fateful flight.

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Look Inside *Miracle on the Hudson*

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Chris Cobb hands life preservers thrown from the ferry Thomas Jefferson to Warren Holland and Victor Warnement (in the white shirt) on the right wing. (Photo © Tripp Harris)



The final group of passengers to be rescued floats on an escape slide attached to the left side of the sinking Airbus as daylight fades. (Photo © Eric Stevenson)



The smooth nose of the Airbus A320 is cracked and dented after its collision with the geese. (Photo © NTSB)

From Publishers Weekly

In a stunning display of skill and steely nerves, pilot Chesley Sullenberger managed a Hudson River water landing in freezing weather, with no engines, to save the lives of every single person aboard his aircraft. Aided by New York and New Jersey emergency responders steeped in post-9/11 training, Sullenberger and his crew did everything right when everything around them had gone horribly wrong. Interviewing survivors of flight 1549, husband-and-wife journalists Prochnau and Parker piece together a detailed, moment-by-moment account of the accident and its aftermath, getting inside the heads of ordinary people who demonstrated remarkable courage and humanity. Anyone who remembers the dramatic 2009 event will be riveted by this account, even with a forgone happy conclusion. Notably absent is the testimony of Captain Sullenberger, who saved his insights for his own book, *Highest Duty*, but this passengers'-eye-view narrative makes an absorbing, inspirational record.

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From Booklist

So far, in the publication of books about the dramatic ditching of US Airways Flight 1549, the pilot has told his story (Chesley Sullenberger's *Highest Duty*, 2009); the plane has had its story told (William Langewiesche's *Fly by Wire*, 2009); and now most of the passengers tell their tales. Veteran journalists, the authors interviewed 118 of the 150 people onboard (but not the flight crew). Like the proverbial witnesses to a traffic accident, none, it seems, saw the same thing despite experiencing the same in-flight emergency, so fear and confusion in the passenger cabin are the dominating continuity in Prochnau and Parker's narrative. It is otherwise as kaleidoscopic as temperament and life experience make any collection of strangers. Some naturally made indelible impressions by their reactions to what seemed like imminent death: men cravenly shoving their way to the exits; others gallantly assisting the evacuation. These accounts of how people behaved will certainly prompt readers to imagine how they might have responded, so expect great interest in the audience that actually heard the words, "This is the captain. Brace for impact!" --Gilbert Taylor

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dorothy Wright:

This book untitled *Miracle on the Hudson: The Survivors of Flight 1549 Tell Their Extraordinary Stories of Courage, Faith, and Determination* to be one of several books that best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book shop or you can order it by means of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too.

It makes you quicker to read this book, because you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason for your requirements to past this publication from your list.

Stephen Hancock:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love Miracle on the Hudson: The Survivors of Flight 1549 Tell Their Extraordinary Stories of Courage, Faith, and Determination, you may enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Silvia Smedley:

As we know that book is vital thing to add our know-how for everything. By a reserve we can know everything we would like. A book is a set of written, printed, illustrated or blank sheet. Every year had been exactly added. This publication Miracle on the Hudson: The Survivors of Flight 1549 Tell Their Extraordinary Stories of Courage, Faith, and Determination was filled regarding science. Spend your free time to add your knowledge about your technology competence. Some people has different feel when they reading a new book. If you know how big benefit of a book, you can feel enjoy to read a e-book. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book that you simply wanted.

William Bottoms:

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